Ku Klux Klan—1927

Alabama.

THE KNELL OF BARBARISM IN ALABAMA

In the space of five weeks the State of Alabama has gone through one of the most momentous crises in its history. Five weeks ago Alabama faced the beginning of an appalling situation. Five weeks ago the light of publicity was first brought to play upon floggings in Alabama, and the first steps were taken to correct a condition which was quickly sensed by the people of the State to be one of grave consequence.

Early in July the flogging of Jeff Calloway near Oneonta by a band of hooded men was brought to light. Then, for the next few weeks, one such brutal case after another was reported, until for a while it seemed that hardly a day passed without the disclosure of a new flogging outrage. The State had not recovered from the shock of the Calloway case before there came from Florence the news that a woman, Mrs. Bertha Slay, had been taken from her home in the night and cruelly beaten. Then followed reports of the flogging of Arthur Hitt, aged and respected Jefferson county negro, who was forced to sell his farm for a fraction of its real value because some white men coveted it, and of a series of some seven or eight floggings in Randolph county, and several other cases here and there.

The decent people of the State had great cause to feel alarmed and indignant. They saw the rise of a vicious form of lawlessness in their midst. They beheld the spread of a reckless disregard for human rights. They viewed their beloved State sunk into the depths of unspeakable conditions of degradation in the eyes of the world and in their own sight. Well did they have cause to lament these outbreaks of barbarism in Alabama.

But the view is now considerably altered. Alabama is fast redeeming itself in the eyes of its own civilized people and of the rest of the country. There is glorious cause for rejoicing in Alabama today, for that form of vicious lawlessness which manifests itself in flogging outrages is being put down with a firm hand.

In the last week two men have been tried for participation in the kidnaping and flogging of Jeff Calloway, and both have been convicted. L. A. Clayton, the [illegible] be tried at Oneonta, was [illegible] and sentenced to eight [illegible]

And before that five convictions were obtained at Florence in the flogging of Mrs. Slay. The floggers in the Florence case were punished only by fines, but it must be remembered that, under the present law in Alabama, their offense was a misdemeanor, and not a felony, so that punishment as stern as that meted out by Judge Steele at Oneonta could not have been exacted. But the fact that they were convicted meant an important victory for law and order.

Had it not been for the keen foresight of Attorney General Charlie C. McCall who sought and obtained indictments for kidnaping as well as flogging in the Oneonta cases, Clayton and Doss would have gotten off with light punishment.

Attorney General McCall, his assistants and Circuit Solicitor Rains have shown that they meant business. So have Judge Steele and the Oneonta juries. Their work has reflected credit on Alabama.

Faced with a painful crisis beginning five weeks ago, Alabama has met the test admirably. This State is putting down the barbaric practice of flogging with a firmness that is bringing commendation from far and near. A few short weeks ago when word of the Alabama floggings went throughout the country, the State was held up in a most unfavorable light on every hand. There was much harmful publicity in the newspapers of every section. But with the convictions at Oneonta, the flogging cases are now yielding Alabama most favorable publicity. Newspapers in other States are displaying accounts of these convictions on their front pages, and passing commendatory comment in their editorial columns. Thus The New York World says:

> In Alabama, Judge O. A. Steele has sentenced a Klansman to eight years in prison for taking part in a flogging. We suggest that Alabama write the name O. A. Steele on its roll of honor. In our opinion he has done more for public decency and the fair name of the State than any Alabaman we have heard of in a long time.

Alabama is proud of Judge Steele. The Advertiser has already added its voice to the State-wide volume of praise being accorded him. Much credit is due also to Chief Walter K. McAdory, of the State Law Enforcement Department, and his men, who rendered notable service in the investigation of the case and in the collection of evidence.

We rejoice that Alabama has redeemed itself. We who know our State have naturally had confidence in the outcome. We know that Alabama will not tolerate barbarism, and the rest of the country now [illegible] as well as we do.

SOME QUESTIONS

Editor The Advertiser:

"Criticism is what we need—what we must take and give with a smile." One of your Prattville correspondents, Mr. Wadsworth, made that statement in last Friday's edition of The Advertiser. About two weeks prior to that time, he said, "I have been, but am not now, a member of the Klan, and know its workings." For some unknown reason he did not divulge whether he withdrew of his own accord or was forced through a painful process of expulsion. However, certainly one who can take and give criticism with a smile is a good man. Hence "the rule of the Klan to expel bad members when they are found out" would not apply to your correspondent. Therefore, may we ask why he withdrew "after seeing it from the inside," if the Klan is so worthy? We may be pardoned for our curiosity to know the reason for this "Paradise lost."

Furthermore, if it is "the rule of the Klan to expel bad members when they are found out," and if Klansmen who commit flogging outrages while masked in the special regalia of an inner circle of the Klan are bad members, why did Grand Dragon Esdale take so much pains to evade the truth at Oneonta? And why did Hughes and Tidwell receive so many Klan threats when they told the truth on fellow members? In the trial at Oneonta, why did some of the defendants claim innocent and then plead guilty? Have they been subjected to the "painful duty of expulsion"? Or were they, as Klavellers, performing a "sacred duty" when they committed the crimes? If flogging and other methods of intimidation are not orthodox Klan practices, why do the "national lecturers" advocate them? Why has a national lecturer already threatened Calloway again? And why do the Klan papers, ever including the religious press in Alabama, unwittingly condone invisible anarchy by minimizing its enormity, childishly comparing flogging with law violations not half as serious?

How many unprejudiced citizens "must grin and endure until they are clad in the whole armor of the Klan?" How much grinning and enduring would be required? What would cause the grinning and enduring, loss of liberty or love of the Klan?

If it is true that "the robe may be impersonated," why should there "be a law against that?" If "Klan members are determined to wear what clothes they please and brook no outside dictation," why are they so determined to dictate to others on various propositions? Which should dictate, the majority or the minority?

When minorities dictate, do majorities crucify or burn at the stake? Which is more undesirable, dictation or intimidation? Cannot reason and common sense enable one to realize that the continued practice of dictation and intimination would terminate in bloody anarchy?

Finally, why are not Hughes and Tidwell still good Klansmen? And "if all the members would quit who are against flogging," how great a number would the "few left" be? Couldn't the "few left" be greatly increased from the ranks of those who are easily converted to the idea of illegal law enforcement? Why are some of the good men in the Klan withdrawing "of their own accord?" And if "the rule of the Klan to expel bad members when they are found out" is assidiously practiced, why are they so long being found out? Is it on account of the mask? Questions must be asked and answered, like criticism must be taken and given, with a smile.

Evergreen, Ala. W. C. BRAXTON.

* * *

THANKS THE ADVERTISER

Editor The Advertiser:

Permit us to express to you our deep appreciation for the assistance given in the raising of funds to provide for the boys' camp at Camp Rotary. In each instance in past years and in the present campaign, you have entered heartily into the work, and the service rendered by yourself and your paper

A ST. CLAIR COUNTY SCANDAL AND THE LATE FREY BILLS

A dispatch from Springville, in St. Clair county, relates that last April, a 56-year-old white woman and her 14-year-old daughter were severely flogged by a band of "unmasked" men. The child was dragged from a sick bed and beaten into unconsciousness. Cause not given—but the cause is unimportant.

What is important, however, not only is the fact that men flogged an old woman and a little girl, but that if the legislature of Alabama had succeeded in committing the indecency of passing the press-gag laws, The Advertiser might today face the possibility of a libel suit or two for printing and commenting on the St. Clair county scandal. Manifestly it does not help the reputation of St. Clair county any for the world to know that this thing happened in that county, nor does it help the reputation of the State of Alabama for the world to know that this thing happened in Alabama. If the prosecuting attorneys of the State and the county of St. Clair could convince a grand jury (i. e., a St. Clair county grand jury) that publication of this story in The Advertiser injured the reputation of the State and county, would not the paper be in for trouble—under the Frey bills?

To be sure, this may be a strained conclusion. But we submit that the purpose of the Frey bills was to give officials a club to hit editors over the head for doing nothing worse than we are doing at this moment in connection with the St. Clair county outrage. We submit that if The Advertiser and other newspapers in Alabama had "laid off" floggings and the mask, under which most floggings have occurred, though the St. Clair floggers were unmasked, there would have been no Frey bills.

Governor Graves, the well known Idealist, believes that newspaper accounts of such affairs as the whipping of an old woman in Alabama, do vast injury to the good name of the State. But it is our notion that the flogging itself is the evil—not publicity about it. Nevertheless, if Governor Graves had had his way and his Frey bills, defining lese majeste in Alabama, had been enacted, it would have been necessary to submit this editorial to [illegible] lawyer before printing it. For the Governor of Alabama, anxious always to protect the good name of the State, might have set the dogs of the law on our trail. At least that is the sort of law Governor Graves thought he was getting when he had his gag designed.

JOURNAL
MINNEAPOLIS, MINN

AUG 28 1927

An Editor Routs Alabama's Floggers

FLOGGING helpless individuals that have incurred their displeasure, is no longer the favorite outdoor sport of Alabamans of a certain type.

This sudden cessation of flogging has resulted directly from the unexpected but vigorous prosecution and punishment of floggers by public officials whom they had thought to be their particular friends and protectors.

But here in the North it is not so well known that the credit for this forward step in the civilization of Alabama is due chiefly, if not solely, to a courageous newspaper publisher, VICTOR HANSON. Not since EMILE ZOLA aroused the conscience of mankind over the outrageous persecution of DREYFUS has there been so fine an example of the power of the pen when wielded in defense of the seemingly defenseless.

The floggers were having things pretty well their own way, when Mr. HANSON started what looked like a hopeless fight to check their activities. The members of nine whipping parties out of ten wore the robes of the Klan, and virtually every public official in the State, from the Governor down, was either an actual member of the Klan, or had been elected with the indorsement of the Klan.

Citizens were being flogged for the most trivial offenses. And, as a rule, they were keeping quiet about their experiences, in fear of receiving other visits from their tormentors. A prosperous Negro was whipped until he agreed to sell to a Klan leader for nine hundred dollars land worth six thousand. An elderly white man, suffering from pellagra, was scourged so severely that he was under medical treatment for weeks. A sixty-one-year old white man, friendless and crippled, was flogged for wife-beating, though his wife vigorously denied that he had ever abused her. A white woman was whipped by a mob of women. A Greek artist who had married an Alabama girl against the wishes of some natives was lashed and ordered to leave the State.

These are just a few samples. VICTOR HANSON was all alone in the fight when his three influential newspapers the *Montgomery Advertiser*, the *Birmingham News* and the *Birmingham Age-Herald*, started after the floggers But before he had won his battle, he had received valuable aid from numerous smaller dailies, and not a few weeklies, in rural Alabama.

The test came a while back when JEFF CALLOWAY, an orphaned youth of Blount County, was kidnapped by a masked and robed band, taken into an adjoining county and mercilessly flogged.

HANSON and his allies promptly demanded that the floggers be punished, and so loudly that Governor GRAVES himself a Klansman, was stirred to action. So was CHARLES C. MCCALL, Attorney General, who addressed a open letter to JAMES ESDALE, Grand Dragon of Alabama requesting the Klan's co-operation in running down the mobsmen. All he got back was a sarcastic reply, but the State went ahead without the Klan's help and, as a result two of CALLOWAY'S floggers were sentenced to long terms in the penitentiary, four were sentenced to the county jail and a fifth was fined.

Since which time there has not been a single flogging in all Alabama, so far as the authorities or the newspapers can learn. The reason is clear. Men who go masked and in mobs to lash defenseless neighbors under cover of darkness, are arrant cowards. Only so long as it can be done without fear of punishment, does the sport of flogging retain its savor for such as these. Shown that the pastime involves some degree of personal risk, these rustic brutes promptly turn to some less hazardous amusement.

NEGRO IS LASHED BY UNMASKED GANG IN DALLAS COUNTY

Fred Lund Taken From Bunk in Construction Camp and Given 75 Blows, He Tells Sheriff

THREE WHITE MEN AND TWO NEGROES FACE CHARGES

Trial Set For Tuesday in Common Pleas Court For Assault and Battery

SELMA, ALA., Aug. 13.—Special by Leased Wire to The Advertiser.—The first flogging brought to light in Dallas county was recorded Saturday morning when Fred Lund, negro, 24, reported to Sheriff J. E. Gaddy that he was given 75 lashes with a leather strap across his back by a band of unmasked men in a patch of woods on the southside of the city, August 4.

Lund told Sheriff Gaddy that he recognized five of the men in the party, three of which were white men, and a warrant charging them with assault and battery was issued from the court of common pleas Saturday afternoon for those named by Lund as his assailants.

Those named by Lund as the men that flogged him were: Smith Holliday, Grover Alfton and Richard Miley, white, and Dick Moses and Harry Richard, negroes. They will be given trial in the common pleas court on Tuesday morning, it was announced by Sheriff Gaddy.

Sheriff Gaddy said the negro came to him Saturday morning and told him that he had been taken from his bunk in a construction camp on the Selma-Montgomery highway and carried to the woods where he was flogged. There was no charge made by the floggers, and the negro said that he did not know why they had whipped him.

After the lashes had been given, Lund said, he was taken to an abandoned house near the spot of trees and there forced to stay all night. He said that when the men locked him in this house, he was told not to "squeal" and if he did disclose the whipping, he would be taken out again and flogged in the same manner.

Sheriff Gaddy declared that the matter was undergoing a thorough investigation and the case would be submitted to the courts Tuesday morning. The negro is a laborer on the Selma-Montgomery highway.

In two grand jury investigations into floggings alleged to have occurred in Jefferson and Randolph counties are pending, two masked whippings were recorded for the first time late today in two other Alabama counties.

Added to the state's growing list of mob disorders in recent weeks were the reported floggings of Nasser Hillal, a foreign restaurant proprietor in Calhoun county, and that of W. H. Brummett, a negro physician in Talladega county.

Hillal placed the cause of the lashing given him as due to an "affair" with a girl. The negro physician claims he was abducted, beaten into unconsciousness and later forced to dispose of his property and leave the state. He was whipped because "white people patronized his drug store," according to his story to officers.

Officers in Talladega and Calhoun county are understood to have knowledge of other floggings in the two counties not yet brought to light, and are now investigating the cases.

The grand jury probe into the flogging cases of Dan Mitchell, Clay, Ala., artist, and Arthur Hitt, negro farmer is awaiting the arrival of Solicitor Davis, of Jefferson county, from a vacation in Canada.

TWO ALLEGED KLANSMEN RELEASED UNDER BONDS

BIRMINGHAM, ALA., Aug. 24.—Special to The Advertiser.—Two alleged klansmen, Andrew Glaze and Ira Davis of Tarrant City, accused with others of having taken part in the flogging of Jeff Calloway, appeared in the office of Sheriff Charles Nations at Oneonta last Thursday and surrendered, it was learned Wednesday. They have been released on $5,000 bail. The cases will probably be heard before the next Blount county grand jury, Assistant Solicitor Darden said.

Sheriff Nations said he did not learn where the men have been. John Coleman, state law enforcement officer, brought the news to Birmingham. Convictions were found in six cases on charges of flogging Calloway, who lived in Oneonta. Eugene Doss and L. A. Clayton, principal defendants, were sentenced to from eight to ten years, but have appealed their cases.

Amos Covington, Chester and Clifford Clayton and Pete Carlisle plead guilty, were fined $500 and given six months in jail. Dr. L. S. Fennell is under a suspended sentence on a charge of inciting to riot.

FLOGGING OF FAMILY DESCRIBED AT TRIAL

Tyler, Texas, September 2.—A graphic story of how a family was routed from their home at night, marched away into the woods and flogged by four masked men was told today by one of the victims, J. R. Richardson, a cotton picker, in district court, where one of the alleged floggers is on trial.

Cain Anderson, the defendant, is a wealthy farmer and dairyman and the Richardson family was a tenant on his property. He is specifically charged under the state antimasking law with being a member of the band which, on the night of June 8, flogged Richardson, his wife and their daughter-in-law, Mrs. W. A. Straps.

Describes Attack.

Dressed in a blue denim shirt and overalls, Richardson took the stand and described the attack, declaring he had recognized the planter as one of the assailants.

"My wife was sick in bed, my four children were asleep and I was in the hall of the house when four men, wearing masks, and carrying guns, suddenly entered the house," Richardson related.

They ordered me to put up my hands and my wife to get out of bed. My wife and I were marched from the house to a near-by wood. I was caught by my hand and jerked to the ground on my side and whipped with a rope.

"Dewitt Osborne finally took the rope and tried to break every bone in my body. (Osborne is also under indictment and awaiting trial.)

"They jerked my wife down and whipped her."

Said He Would Not Work.

Richardson said she asked "What is this for?" and one of the men replied: "Because you won't work."

The witness asserted the party escorted them back to the Richardson home and instructed them to leave the country within a few days.

The cotton picker's 6-year-old son, Henry, preceded him on the stand and told the assistant attorney general, who questioned him, that "Anderson run our family out."

The elder Richardson said he identified both Anderson and Osborne, although on cross-examination he admitted he had told two officers the day after the whipping that he did not know his assailants.

Ku Klux Klan - 1927

Alabama.

W. J. WORTHINGTON, NOTED KLAN RAIDER, HELD IN LAW'S NET

Charged With Kidnaping and Bribery; Makes Bond of $30,000; Eugene Doss, Oneonta Convict, Arrested

EXPECT DOZEN OTHER ARRESTS IN FEW HOURS

Allbright Makes Bond; Five Remain Behind Bars; McCall To Direct Prosecution

BIRMINGHAM, ALA., Sept 16.—Charged with kidnaping, or perjury, nine alleged Ku Klux Klan members found themselves enmeshed in the net of the law Friday when they were arrested by state and county officers following indictments by a Jefferson county grand jury, in flogging cases.

The men under arrest are Andy Glaze, Tarrant City, kidnaping; Ellis Ratliffe, Tarrant City, kidnaping; Clyde Copeland, Tarrant City, kidnaping; Ira Davis Tarrant City, kidnaping; Eugene Doss, Tarrant City, kidnaping Louis C. Allbright, 523 Fourth Avenue West, kidnaping; W. J. Worthington, 3401 Highland avenue, kidnaping and bribery; Julius Lumpkin, 319 North Fortieth street, perjury, two counts; and C. J. Seale, kidnaping.

Arrests of the men were made following the report of the grand jury Thursday night and continued all day Friday. Worthington and Allbright made bond, while habeas corpus proceedings to reduce amount of Lumpkins bond was continued by Judge Roger Snyder, at the request of Assistant Attorney General John J. Hayes until 10 a. m., Saturday.

More than a dozen arrests are yet to come, said Charles McCall, state attorney general, who with Solicitor Jim Davis, presented the evidence to the grand jury, which returned the indictments.

Trial of the men probably will be set at an early date, McCall said.

L. D. Elwell, grand jury witness who was sentenced to five days in jail and a $50 fine by Judge John P. McCoy for evasion of questions before the grand jury Thursday afternoon, was questioned at length on two occasions Friday. Elwell is said to be secretary for the Klavaliers, an internal organization of the klan, and is thought to know considerable concerning general flogging activities. He admitted being a member of the klan when he appeared before Judge McCoy Thursday.

Five In Jail.

Glaze, Ratliffe, Copeland, Davis and Doss were in the county jail late Friday afternoon in default of $10,000 bond each, while Seale's bond was set at $25,000, that of Lumpkin, $7,000, while Worthington obtained his freedom under $30,000 bond and Allbright after habeas corpus proceedings before Judge Roger Snyder had his bond cut to $5,000, which was later signed by W. J. and M. T. Worthington.

Doss is under $5,000 bond at the present time following his conviction in the Calloway flogging at Oneonta, Blount county, early in August. He was sentenced from eight to ten years in the penitentiary on a kidnaping charge.

Davis and Glaze were arrested on warrants charging them with kidnaping in the same case, and are now under $5,000 bond to appear for trial in Blount county. Officers said that the indictments in Jefferson county were for kidnaping in connection with the Calloway case, and if brought to trial in Jefferson county it is thought that the cases pending in Blount county will be nolle prossed.

Ratliffe's name figured all through the testimony in the Doss and Clayton trials at Oneonta, both as a klansman and as one who attended Antioch church on the night Calloway was whipped. Copeland's name figured in the trials in much the same way.

Indicted in Hitt Case

Worthington, Allbright and Lumpkin's indictments grew out of the whipping of Arthur Hitt, aged negro who a few days later parted with his little farm at a figure that realtors declare is far below the actual market value of the property. W. J. Worthington bought the land.

Worthington and Allbright are both charged with kidnaping, while Lumpkin is charged with perjury growing out of an alleged attempt to bribe and influence the testimony of Emmett Williams, a grand jury witness.

C. J. Seale is charged with kidnaping in the Bolton case, in which an aged man was taken from his home on two different occasions and beaten, the second time his home being burned to the ground by masked klansmen, while another party of men was administering the lash.

Worthington leaped into prominence nearly two years ago when he was tried and convicted in Police Recorder Henry J. Martin's court, of a disorderly charge in connection with the Ku Klux raids on the Chinese restaurants. He later beat the case in the circuit court.

He next appeared in the public eye when more than 30 gallons of liquor was found in the servants' house in the rear of his residence at 3401 Highland avenue. The negro who lived in the house pleaded guilty to owning the liquor. The negro was caught while in the act of transferring it from 5-gallon cans to smaller containers. City Detective H. C. Propst made the arrest.

Worthington made the statement during his trial in police court that he had a list of stewards of the First Methodist church who were going with other men's wives.

Involved in Controversy

Early in the spring of this year Worthington again acquired prominence when he became involved in the controversy between the city commission and the Rev. George Eubanks, of Gate City.

Eubanks made the charge that Woodlawn, Gate City and East Birmingham were overrun with bootleggers, and a committee went before Commission President Jimmie Jones demanding action in clearing them out. Worthington kept breaking into the conversation and President Jones threatened to kick him out of the office if he interrupted again.

It is said that he is one of a group that demanded the removal of Chief of Police Fred McDuff immediately after the present city commission took office and has openly sponsored Sergeant C. C. McClurkin, of the Birmingham police department, for the position of chief of the department.

A Cadillac car bearing a license number which was issued to W. J. Worthington, figured prominently in a prohibition raid on the home of Frederick I. Thompson, former owner of the Birmingham Age-Herald. Worthington drives a Cadillac coupe. Worthington now states that he is no longer active in klan work, but that "he does help out occasionally." He was former reputed exalted cyclops of the Avondale klan.

Allbright is said to be Worthington's personal attorney. Both Allbright and Worthington stand charged with kidnaping Arthur Hitt, and whipping him until he felt inclined to part with his farm.

Lumpkin, who was arrested Wednesday on two warrants charging bribery, was released Thursday morning on $5,000 bond, signed by Worthington and J. C. Arnold, Birmingham attorney.

Arrested on Perjury Charge

He was arrested again Thursday night on charges of perjury after his indictment by the grand jury. According to information at the court house, Lumpkin is said to have offered Emmett Williams, a grand jury witness, a check for $200 to give false testimony or withhold portions of testimony when he appeared before the investigating body. Upon re-arrest, Lumpkin's bond was raised to $3,500 in each case.

Allbright obtained his liberty late Friday afternoon when a habeas corpus proceeding before Judge Roger Snyder resulted in his original bond of $25,000 being cut to $5,000. W. T. Edwards, attorney represented Allbright, while Willard Drake and Assistant Attorney General John J. Haynes represented the state.

Judge Snyder told Allbright that he would cut the bond to $5,000 with the understanding that if he could not make that amount he could come back and he would reconsider. Judge Snyder stopped Haynes from arguing the case unless Drake, who first started to argue for the state, would defer in his favor. "No offense is meant, gentlemen," said Judge Snyder, "but in my court I never permit more than one attorney to speak for a side. Unless the other defers. If Mr. Drake will defer to you, I shall be glad to hear you. he said.

Allbright spent the night in the county jail after he failed to make bond Thursday night.

Kept Up Search

Officers kept up their search for Worthington all through the night. Warrants for his arrest were placed in their hands shortly after 7 p. m. They first went to his office, and later to his home. They were told that he was attending the theater and would be home about 9 p. m.

While the officers were parked across the street from the Worthington home a car resembling that of Worthington's was seen to stop in front of the Worthington residence. A man got out of the car and was met on the walk by a woman who came from the Worthington residence. She spoke a few words to the man, who immediately got into the car and drove rapidly away.

Before the officers, who were headed in the opposite directon, could turn and follow, the car had vanished.

Trials for those connected with Jefferson county flogging cases will be scheduled as early as possible, Attorney Charlie McCall said Friday.

Criminal court opens the week of September 19 for the trial of jail cases, Fordney Brandon, clerk of the criminal division, said. The week of October 10 is set aside for capital cases as is the work of October 31, which would leave the weeks of September 25, October 3, October 17 and October 24, as possible weeks in which to docket the trials.

Setting the cases will depend largely on what the trial judges and the solicitor's office agree as to the most suitable time to hear them, with the week of October 17 regarded as the earliest possible date.

Attorney General McCall, who conducted the prosecution of the famous Calloway flogging trials in Oneonta, will lead the prosecution, while Solicitor Jim Davis, who worked up the evidence in the Hitt case will handle much of the detail in the cases.

Assistant Attorney General John J. Haynes, who received much note in the Oneonta trials for his cross-examination of character witnesses, will appear with McCall, while Willard Drake will aid Davis in the presentation of his evidence.

EVIDENCE IN COBB MURDER TO INDICT SIXTEEN, IS CLAIM

All Are Said To Be Members of Masked Band Who Killed Negro Woman While Husband Looked On

SPECIAL GRAND JURY SESSION IS ASSURED

Cobb Will Return From Hiding Place to Aid Prosecution Under Protection

BIRMINGHAM, ALA., Aug. 8.—Special to The Advertiser.—Hard on the heels of the conviction of the Jeff Calloway floggers, state law enforcement Officer John Coleman announced Monday that sufficient evidence to get indictments against sixteen men who were members of the masked band who killed Lilly Cobb, negro, while on a masked raid, more than a year ago would be in his hands before the latter part of the week.

Lilly Cobb was killed while her husband and children looked on in her own home, in April, 1925. Since then her husband, Emory Cobb, has been in hiding in Cleveland, Ohio, afraid to prosecute his wife's murderers.

Edgar Moses, Oneonta farmer has been under an indictment charging murder since the raid, but has not been prosecuted due to the failure to locate the key witness, Emory Cobb.

Moses was indicted after authorities found that he had been shot in the hand, and the indictment hushed up. Cobb is said to have fired the shot that struck Moses' hand while he was in the negroes' home the night of the slaying.

Both Judge Woodsen Martin, who presided over the court in Oneonta Monday and Judge O. A. Steele, who held court last week, have said that they would call a special session of the grand jury to return indictments as soon as the sufficient evidence was in the hands of authorities, Coleman said.

In the meantime Special Investigator Fred Cain, of the solicitor general's office is in Cleveland endeavoring to persuade Cobb to return to Alabama.

Cobb offered to return when located in Cleveland by the Age-Herald, provided that he would be furnished railroad fare to and from the city, togeth

er with immunity from any charge that might be docked against him in connection with the fatal raid, plus protection against violence while in Alabama.

Attorney General Charles McCall was ready and willing to furnish expense and protection, but there was no law that enabled him to drop charges. He said, however, that any charges would not be pushed to their legal conclusion.

Cobb left his little home in Oneonta the day following the tragedy, when threats that reached from the raiding party made him fear his own life.

Coleman is the officer who directed the accumulation of evidence that resulted in seven men being indicted and convicted of the Calloway flogging, in which two men received eight to ten years penitentiary sentences on a kidnapping charge, while five others pleaded guilty, taking fines of $500 each and a jail sentence of six months each. One of the five, Dr. L. S. Fennell of Tarrant City, had his jail sentence suspended. Four of the men began serving sentences Monday, while two are out on $5,000 bonds.

Alabama Man Flogged Twice; Home Is Burned

Woman and Daughter Flogged in Alabama

Birmingham, Ala., September 9. (AP)—While the Jefferson county grand jury was investigating a series of floggings today it was learned that a St. Clair county grand jury had failed to return indictments in connection with the flogging last April of Mrs. Belle Huggins, a widow, and her daughter, Mattie, 14 years old. The two women told officers they were severely whipped because they allowed a negro to teach them to drive an automobile. The case will be before the next session of the St. Clair county grand jury.

Birmingham, Ala., September 9.—(AP)—The severe flogging on two occasions of John Lowell Bolton, 55, and the burning of his residence by a band of armed and unmasked men was revealed here tonight by Attorney General Charlie C. McCall. The attorney general is in Birmingham aiding in a grand jury investigation of mob whippings in Jefferson county. Bolton was "beaten unmercifully with a large strap" and kicked while he lay blindfolded on the ground, McCall told newspapermen. The attorney general, after an investigation covering months, declared himself armed with evidence which he believes will indict a large number of the floggers.

Ten minutes after Bolton had been removed from his home for the second flogging, McCall said, his house was set afire and burned to the ground. Bolton has been in hiding since the second flogging, which occurred last June.

No motive has been assigned for the whippings. The first occurred in January, the attorney general said. One night a group of men came to Bolton's home a short distance from here, where he has lived a long time. The body of the mob stood out of view while two of the men gained entrance by a ruse. Bolton was seized and taken to a spot on a lonely road and flogged with a whip resembling a "cat-o'-nine-tails."

On a night in June a group of men again came to Bolton's residence and requested water for an ill girl. As Bolton turned to get the water he was struck on the head by a member of the mob and he was again seized, blindfolded, taken into the woods and unmercifully beaten. None of the men were masked, but all carried pistols on both occasions, according to Mr. McCall.

FLOGGINGS IN ALABAMA.

The attorney general of Alabama is authority for the statement that not less than 70 floggings have taken place in that state in the last several weeks.

Perhaps no other state in the country can "top" that record, although Georgia is by no means at the bottom of the list.

The truth is many floggings are not reported. The victims are frequently unwilling to stand the publicity. The cowardly hoodlums who are guilty of the crimes are frequently protected by "fraternity feeling" in the communities in which they live.

The attorney general of Alabama is determined to put a stop to mob violence if he can do so, and in this he is to be commended.

Alabama has made a good record in mob convictions, although in one county the court record stands as a stigma and will until the law is vindicated.

It is now up to Jefferson county to vindicate her good name.

It is one of the largest and most prosperous counties of Alabama. It is populated by good people. It will be unthinkable if a small band of hooded thugs can "get away" with the night-riding crimes such as have been recently reported.

Mob violence not only strikes at government but at civilization.

It is antagonistic to every degree of law and order. It puts anarchy ahead of the constitution. It promotes abuse of our national ideals

It must be curbed

THE KLAN—BEHOLD IT!

Editor The Advertiser:

Let a Black Belt Protestant, Democrat with six generations of public service behind him be heard on the subject of this sorry outfit masquerading under the robust name of the old Klan, like an ass in a dead lion's skin.

The chief humiliation to Alabama does not lie in the repute for unwashed barbarianism which we have gained through its activities; or in the injury to industry and developments in Alabama resulting from publication abroad of its sorry action and from the recent legislative efforts of its hitherto to threadbare statesmen, now entrenched apostles of the full trough, other states have acquired equal derision from like causes. We do not stand alone.

Nor is the pathos of the organization most tragic in Alabama for its mass whippings and safety-first violation of the law of the home. The poor man's castle may be traditionally inviolable by the King and his armies under the unwritten constitution of England. In Alabama, the poor man's home, particularly if occupied by women, is a thoroughfare for the cowardly recruits which drift into Klan ranks as naturally as slime oozes to the gutter. Yet this is not peculiar to Alabama. Cowards exist throughout the living world; the lower the order of courage the more prone to hunt in packs. The lion fights alone and roars his proud identity by day. If slinking jackals could contrive a safety device, the jackal, too, would mask for further protection. So it goes. The world is full of frowd scavengers; but it did remain for the Alabama brand of night prowlers under the leadership of its eminent Cyclops to demand a mask, not only for the craven faces of his bedraggled knights, threatened with uncovering by the anti-mask bill, but a mask also for their no less craven official acts; that being the precise result intended by the late deceased libel law.

It remained for the Klegislature of Klalabama to carry the doctrine of safety first to an extreme that even a jackal would envy. Consider this high-water mark of personal chivalry. Stung by lusty criticism, they idiotically protest that their mothers have been insulted. They themselves drag that suggestion into public discussion. Having raised that intimate issue, how do these hundred percenters respond? According to the code established for centuries even among amateur gentlemen? In lion fashion? By no means. The pack takes counsel. The pack emerges with a whining law the effect of which is to have the constabulary arrest any citizen denouncing threatened barbarism or official venality.

Nor is the order in Alabama unique because of its intolerance and its false and impudent protestation of piety and patriotism. Every psychologist knows that the weak father, conscieus of his own futility, is likely to prove a brutal parent, punishing his infants in anger with a rigor that simulates strength. The Kluxers sorry ranks are filled with these sadists and punishers; but that sort of scrub has existed from simian beginnings. The hypocritical, the fanatic, the hysterical Pharisee and reformer has forever been the foe to an advancing liberal civilization. We have reached no millennium and Alabama may not complain particularly on account of their presence.

Again, the outstanding wretchedness of this miserable collection of bad citizens and bad sports is not the public odium they bring upon a commonwealth finding its way in the world's work. All states have their examples of organized folly—sometimes in the clanking armor of the Hohenzollern; sometimes in the unwashed squalor of of the triumphant Bolsehvist; sometimes in silks; and sometimes in plain fool's motley. Admiral Heflin in charge of the anti-papist Armada on the Coosa river, while at present the most noisy vent of a somewhat flatulent body politic, is not the only Andy Gump in the United States Senate.

Again the chief shame of this band of deinquents is not its contemptible attitude toward village light-o-loves. The psychologist has made us familiar with the general prevalence—in and out of Alabama—of the type responsible for this offense against good order and social understanding. A sorry fellow without mental interests, finds in Mother Nature's common heritage, reaching from Pericles and Asphasia to Darby and Joan, the only electric possibility in his drab career. He can have no joy in a sonnet from Shakespeare, no capacity for reflection upon the vast drama of human tragedy and attainment, has no robust or generous motives; he stands immutably a clod who touches infinity only in chaining to his dull fireside the companionship of some hapless female of the species. Since no personable gal could by any sort of mischance desire to remain with such a scrub, the Kleagle in possession is willing to terrorize all Dulcineas against walking out. To that end he organizes a band of brave tom-tits and spanks some neighborhood Magdalene; thus supplementing the duress of convention and the bonds of law. Alabama is not the origin or the end of these Freudian persecutions. If they increase, there is probably enough chivalry left even in Alabama to provide a remedy in the more general use of buckshot.

The chief offense and humiliation we suffer from this eddy of tawdry humanity is that it obscures with incredible ignominy the finest traditions of a people once courageous, chivalrous and rational.

The Klan has hidden under its verminous rags the grey uniform of the 60's, and has gagged and halted that admirable American stock until recent years dominant in Alabama and well qualified to carry on the civilization of the Old South under the new conditions.

The Klan has stunned and paralyzed the straight thinkers and fine craftsmen at the head of industry and commerce in Alabama it is now tightening its slimy coil around that body of clear-sighted gallant youths who bore arms in a man's job in 1917 and 1918, who have heretofore been derisive of imbecility and are now on trial on the issue of State or Klan!

All these, in whom lies the hope of Alabama's future are choking in the dust of this sorry mob; this Coxey's Army of greasy political illiterates; these bootleggers of lynch law; these rowdies and renegades.

The necessitous politician joins any huddle of humanity in this day of universal suffrage. The votes of the spawning Jukes—irrevocably bred to criminal conduct—are ten fold the votes of the intellectuals. The Jukes go into the Klan. The uninformed fanatic and the sheep-like joiners of secret orders fall in line. So the wretched bloc acquires numbers and a significance not warranted by the ability—even for evil—represented in its membership. Its leaders are for the most part rapacious, discredited, essential failures, without personal merit apart from an imported ability to exploit the sterile intellects and round up the rowdies, political cowards and feeble-minded joiners who make up so large a part of the Klan roster.

There it stands, a band of exploiters; hypocrites and hoodlums, cowed officials, barren minds, failures, fanatics, effective politically by reason of that damnable paradox of politics, the efficiency of the minority bloc! Nevertheless there it stands, a challenge to the heirs of reconstruction; to the youth who turned out for that recent man's war, to the straight thinkers carrying on Alabama's commerce; to the owner of every cottage potentially menaced by this blight; to the workers in mill and factory which furnish the first victims of its insolent cowardice; to the laborers in the field who need above all others the preservation of basic principles of the bill of rights for the enjoyment of their hard won livelihood.

The question: Will this challenge be met or tailed, is the question to which the undersigned—Black Belt Protestant Democrat, with six generations of American public service behind him—listens for an answer. For my part, I am ready to vote for a black, republican, Catholic on a bolshevist platform, pledged to annex Alabama to Haiti or to Hell itself, in preference over any nominee thrust malodorous minority group of political trash-pickers.

JOHN BAINB'.IDGE.

Birmingham, Alabama.

FLOGGING WRITS EXPECTED SOON

McCall at Birmingham, Says Indictments Due Before End of This Week

BIRMINGHAM, ALA., Sept. 13.—(AP)—Indictments of masked men who participated in floggings in Jefferson county are expected to be returned by a special grand jury before the end of the week, Attorney General Charlie C. McCall of Alabama, who is assisting Solicitor James Davis in presenting evidence to the jury, said today.

In addition to the inquiry into the floggings of Arthur Hitt, negro, Dan Mitchell, Eston Murchison and several other unidentified persons, the grand jury is investigating alleged efforts to intimidate witnesses and threats said to have been made to Solicitor Davis for his part in gathering evidence against the floggers.

Attorney General McCall and Assistant Attorney General Haynes, returned to Birmingham this morning when the grand jury resumed its work after a recess since Friday.

Ku Klux Klan - 1927

Alabama

HEFLIN DENOUNCES ROME AND DEFENDS INVISIBLE EMPIRE

Objects To Hanson And Thompson Owning More Than One Newspaper; Attacks Bill Brandon

By ATTICUS MULLIN

ABBEVILLE, ALA., Aug. 17.—Special to The Advertiser.—United States Senator J. Thomas Heflin delivered a murderous verbal assault on the Pope, Al Smith, The Montgomery Advertiser, Birmingham News and Birmingham Age-Herald in a two hour address here today with 1,500 hearers giving him liberal applause.

The walls of the historical vatican must have trembled if they did not fall as the thunderous tirade on the Pope and Catholicism emanated from the senior senator from Alabama. Of his two hour speech, Senator Heflin gave Catholicism one hour and a half. The Advertiser, News and Age-Herald fifteen minutes, a defense of the Ku Klux Klan seven minutes, six minutes to an acknowledgement of his introduction and two minutes to what he has accomplished since he has been representing Alabama in the lower house and the senate.

The climax to Senator Heflin's speech came with his very last sentences when he said: "I am fighting the Roman Catholic hierarchy. I discovered it. I'm fighting it and I am going to continue to fight it to the very end." Wild applause greeted this closing statement of the speaker. His every thrust at Al Smith and the Pope brought him unstinted applause. Inquiry developed the fact that if there is a Catholic in Henry county, nobody has so far found it out.

Senator Heflin told his hearers that there is some sort of conspiracy on foot to deliver the next Alabama delegation to the democratic national convention to Al Smith. He charged that the hierarchy and the interests are behind the move and that it is being aided and abetted by The Montgomery Advertiser, the Birmingham News and the Birmingham Age-Herald. He also in this connection paid his respects to the editor of the weekly paper published at Headland and to the Dothan Eagle. He called the Headland editor "that hickory nut headed little editor who attacked me before I came here."

Senator Heflin made the flatfooted statement that the interests are behind The Montgomery Advertiser, the Birmingham News and the Birmingham Age-Herald. He made the flat footed statement that it was the money of the interests which purchased these papers and put them under their present ownership. He said if he was a member of the Alabama legislature he would pass a law which would prohibit the ownership of more than one paper at the hands of any person. He was referring to the Hanson papers. And then he turned to where a reporter for the Fred Thompson papers was sitting, three of these being under one ownership and said: "Fred Thompson is a good fellow but he ought to own but one paper too."

Claims Threats Made

During the course of Senator Heflin's speech, the facts leaked out for the first time that he, Senator Heflin has been hounded and threatened by the minions of the "Knights of Columbus" and he said that the papers of Alabama would not print the facts about it.

He said while he was in Washington upholding the people of Alabama that his life has been in danger and that The Advertiser, News and Age-Herald have not even taken the people of Alabama into their confidence and told them about it.

Senator Heflin's voice grew husky as he related alleged details of what he termed the dastardly threat of the Catholics to assassinate him right in the sacred halls of congress. And his audience almost cried with him at the ghastly details of the alleged plot to end his useful life. When he told of Catholic priests leering down at him from the gallery of the senate "with murder in their hearts," there was an intaking of breath and a perceptible shivering throughout the audience.

When he told of Catholic priests leering down at him from the gallery of the senate "with murder in their hearts," there was an intaking of breath and a perceptible shivering throughout the audience.

The sympathy of the audience went out to the distinguished senator in his travail and trouble and he was vociferously applauded when he said he would continue to fight the Pope, death or no death before his audience had hardly recovered from the shock, surprise and indignation that the Catholics had planned to assassinate him and that The Advertiser, News and Age-Herald had kept the plot from the people of Alabama. Senator Heflin gathered in more applause as he told how he, single handed and alone kept the United States out of war with Mexico. This information evidently was news to the people of Henry county and as Senator Heflin told them of the plot of the Catholics to involve the people of the United States in war with Mexico to "uphold the authority of the Pope in that country" there were continued gasps and "ain't he talking." Discussing how he averted single handed a deadly struggle with Mexico, Senator Heflin said: "The Knights of Columbus raised one million dollars to carry on propaganda in this country in an effort to get us into war with Mexico. I am the only senator who dared raise his voice against the Roman Catholic hierarchy. I would not favor spilling the blood of one Alabama boy for all of these Catholics. The Knights of Columbus in the United States raised eight hundred thousand dollars to help the Knights of Columbus of Mexico overthrow a friendly government to uphold the authority of the Pope. This is not Americanism it is Romanism and I won't stand for it. They shall never take an army out of the United States to fight for the Pope while I am in the United States senate. While I was making my fight against war with Mexico to help the Pope, they wrote me letters saying they would murder me if I did not stop my fight to prevent such a war. That is like the Al Smith crowd. They want to have their way in the United States or they will kill you. When they threatened me neither The Advertiser, News or Age-Herald threatened their moves about the matter. Al Smith had already sweetened their coffee for them. Not one of these papers opened its mouth when the Catholics threatened to waylay and attack your senior senator and while I was making my fight there were Roman Catholic priests sitting in the gallery with murder in their hearts and with mean looks on their faces.

"The Advertiser, Birmingham News and Birmingham Age-Herald, Dothan Eagle and Headland paper are right in line supporting the Catholics in their effort to get control of the government and God help us if they ever should."

"To show the unfairness of The Advertiser, News and Age-Herald, Senator Heflin said that not long ago he spoke to an audience of over 10,000 people in Chicago, that after his speech the audience presented him with a handsome shrine pin and that not a single word of it was ever printed in these papers.

"They suppress the truth," said Heflin amid thunderous applause.

Getting to the subject of immigration, Senator Heflin told how he had voted with Protestant senators to cut it down while the interests and the Roman Catholic hierarchy were fighting to prevent such legislation.

Roman Catholic hierarchy were fighting to prevent such legislation. "The Catholics in congress voted against cutting down immigration. We were trying to preserve American ideals," he said. "They held a secret allegiance to the people at Rome. That is the crowd The Advertiser, News and Age-Herald is now supporting." Senator Heflin criticized former Senator Oscar Underwood.

"Oscar ain't what he used to be," he said. "He has changed and he now stands with the Catholic crowd who want to abolish the two-third rule in democratic national conventions. That rule has saved the South on previous occasions. I look to see the Al Smith crowd in Alabama try to ring Oscar Underwood into the fight for the Alabama delegation. I was shamed when I saw Underwood join the Al Smith crowd at the national convention in New York. They wanted to humiliate the Ku Klux Klan. My father was a Ku Klux Klan member. The Klan saved the South in the dark and bloody days. It was too much for me when Underwood tried to use Bill Brandon to cast Alabama's vote against the Klan."

Senator Heflin related how he stopped a "dark and hellish Popish scheme" to humiliate the Klan at the New York convention. He said one night he saw a Catholic member of congress in the lobby of the McAlpine hotel. He said he talked for a moment with that member and that in the course of the conversation that member told him that on the next day the convention would reconsider the vote by which it failed to mention the Klan by name in resolutions of denunciation. "I told him then and there to his very teeth," said Senator Heflin, "that he had better let the matter rest and that if he tried to use the delegation from Alabama in any such purpos I would denounce the delegation to the nation over my own signature and go back to Alabama to fight it out with them."

Senator Heflin got another ovation when he told how he had frustrated his "Popish" scheme. At this point he was warming up in his denunciation of the Catholics and the Pope and his audience was with him.

Senator Heflin related another incident which would have been of nation-wide interest if it had ever been known before. He told how when Lindbergh went to New York for his great reception, the Catholics hogged the whole works, with a Catholic mayor and a Catholic governor. "They conspected a scheme to make Lindbergh recognize the sovereignty of the Pope," said Senator Heflin. "With Mayor Walker in front, Governor Smith next in line and Lindbergh third, they marched by a dais where sat a Catholic prelate. Mayor Walker and Governor Smith kissed his ring. But what did Lindbergh do? Did he kiss the ring? He did not. He was a Mason and instead of kissing the prelate's ring and acknowledging the sovereignty of the Pope, he stuck out his hand and said, 'How are you.' They could not trap this young eagle to acknowledge the Pope." Senator Heflin then said he was told while out on a trip to Missouri recently that during the world war a Catholic soldier from Missouri was killed. His casket containing his body came back to his home town, wrapped in an American flag, but when it got back there the flag was torn off because that flag did not symbolize the sovereignty of the Pope. Senator Heflin did not mention the town or the name of the soldier, but he received applause just as unstinted as if he had named names, dates and address.

Senator Heflin was introduced by Lige Glover, chairman of the meeting, as one of America's great men. "We want a free press in Alabama," said Senator Heflin, after acknowledging his introduction, "and we are going to get it. Money from New York was used to buy The Advertiser, News and Age-Herald. One man owns three great newspapers. If I was in the legislature I would pass a bill against one person owning more than one paper. It is reaching a pitiable state in Alabama when such papers can control a government. We are going to finish the job when we beat Al Smith."

Senator Heflin recommended a boycott against those papers which he says suppress the news relating to him. He told his audience that it was circulation which made advertising in papers valuable and that if the people would quit taking the papers, advertising would cease and the papers would be adequately punished.

"Let's put 'em out of business," he said, "because they are advocates of a Roman Catholic for president of the United States."

Senator Heflin claimed credit for the resignation of W. P. G. Harding from the Federal Reserve Board. He said he had been told his fight was the greatest single-handed fight in the history of the United States senate.

"He tried to rob my state, and I drove him out," he said. "There is an organized effort," said Senator Heflin, "for the interests to take charge of this state, and I am the man they are after. Some people are lucky for the enemies they have made. I wish our people could get together frequently as we do otday and not have to wait on corrupt papers to let them know what is going on. I am striving for you, which side are you on? They are organizing to turn the government over to a favored few. Now is the time to know the truth, because the truth will make you free."

In addition to Senator Heflin, Congressman Henry Steagall of the third congressional district, and Dr. Bob Jones of Montgomery spoke during the day. A barbecue was served at one-thirty in the afternoon.

Those who keep in close touch with the political situation are strong in the belief that the Abbeville speech of Senator Heflin is the opening gun in a fight on his part to control the next Alabama delegation to the democratic national convention. It is also known that Senator Heflin would not be averse to being nominated president, and he feels that with a friendly Ku Klux Klan Alabama delegation, the twenty-four votes from Alabama will give him a good start toward the nomination, if he can corral Ku Klux Klan delegations from other states. It is said that it is his idea that if he fails in his ambition of being the presidential nominee of the democratic party, he can use the delegation from Alabama, in the event he elects one, to trade with as he sees fit.

Senator Heflin does not come up for re-election to the senate from Alabama until August, 1930. Senator Heflin's hold on rural audiences was never more plainly shown than in his Abbeville speech. Eyes stuck out on stems as he related "Hellish Catholic plots," and how he foiled the "villain" at every turn and of how he would keep on foiling the villain as long as his good tongue was not palsied. There were actually tears of rage in the eyes of hundreds as he told of how he is stalked on the streets of Washington by Catholics as if he were a wild beast and of how his life may be snuffed out at any moment. They fell for it, hook, line and sinker.

Please be brief. We reserve the right to cut letters more than 300 words long.

HARD TO KILL

Editor The Advertiser:

"Orthodoxy dies hard, and its defenders tell us that this fact shows that it is of divine origin. Judaism dies hard. It has lived several thousand years longer than Christianity. The religion of Mohammed dies hard. Buddahism dies hard. Why do all of these religions die hard? Because intelligence increases slowly."—Ingersoll.

We might add to this that Ku Kluxism, the quasi appendage to orthodoxy, is dying hard; because even in the twentieth century the increase of intelligence is not sufficient to give the reign of the mask a rapid death.

Your correspondent, the philosophical Mr. Amerine, appears to me making desperate efforts to remain among the survival of the fittest class in this titanic struggle for existence among the orthodox. Mr. Amerine risks his reputation as a philosopher and logician in his rejoinder to the writer, by using some very apparent apriori and hypothetical arguments. To begin with, your correspondent could have at least been fair in stating the question at issue correctly even though his logic were defective. He accuses me of attempting to make rubbish of the Bible by constantly quoting the Rubayat and "The Religion of Nature." The fact is I have made no such attempt. He complained: "But it is not necessary that young men of today study tablets to know of those days—there are lots of living characters ever ready to inform him and to quote Omar, a dissipated old Persian poet who sang of wine, women and love." I rejoined by quoting from Ecclesiastes the words of Solomon and the latter's historic relation to his beautiful fascinating neighbor the voluptious Queen of Sheba—conclusively establishing the fact that Solomon, reputed among the orthodox to be the wisest among the wise, had gone far beyond Omar in love of pleasure, wine, women and song. Your philosophical correspondent fails to condemn Solomon for the same "sin" which he so vehemently damns Omar—for no other reason we suppose than it might "make rubbish" of the Bible. Of course the wise Solomon and the inspired Bible have a license to advertise the "pomps and vanities of this wicked world" and the orthodox will accept it as "holy" and "divinely inspired" without the slightest question. But for "infidels" like Omar, Fitzgerald, Ingersoll, Whitman, Voltaire, Mencken, Sinclair Lewis, etc.—it is indecent, vile, licentious and hellish in the extreme!

As to my persistence along certain lines of thought which seems to concern so much your correspondent—I would much prefer being a little bird perched up among the waving foliage of a living tree, caressed by the life-giving breezes and nourished by the glorious sun, singing: "Fiddle-dee-dee, the summer day long!"—so felicitously described by your correspondent—waking up the orthodox sleepyheads with their "popguns"; than to be a stupid orthodox owl, solemnly sitting on the dead branch of a dead tree hooting the same hoot that has been hooted, day in and day out, night in and night out, without varying a single note, for two thousand years! The monotonous tone of the owl lulls to sleep and inaction. The "Fiddle-dee-dee" wakes up, stimulates, and challenges the sleepy popgunners: "Get me, if you dare!"

Copernicus and Galileo some three hundred years ago were "Fiddle-dee-dees" who lived up in the branches of the live trees of progress. The monotonous hoot of the orthodox owl had ceased to interest them. But so persistent were they with their song of the moving earth and other planets around the sun that the orthodox who believed in a flat stationary earth and a solid sky with little holes in it like a sieve for the water to rain down, etc.—got out their popguns and went gunning for these little birds and progress. These impudent "Fiddle-dee-dees" were trying their best to "make rubbish out of the Holy Bible!"

But their song of progress could not be silenced. Its irresistible, intensive, inspiring tones; defying king and priest, church and altar, the fire of the stake, the torture of the rack, the gloom of the dungeon, went sounding down the ages until man like the gods could gaze out into the infinite depths of the universe!

"Thru microscope and telescope which reveal to human eyes
The endless forms of littleness and the vastness of the skies.
From infinitude of smallness to that vast abysmal space
Where the stars fade out in darkness and conception veils her fall."

DILLON J. SPOTSWOOD.

Mobile, Alabama

A CRITICISM OF OUR STAND AGAINST FLOGGING

Editor The Advertiser:

Ere "the tumult and the shouting dies, the captains and the kings depart," permit a small voice from a private in the rear ranks to be heard anent the flogging campaign which is being so vociferously waged in Alabama under the leadership of the three Hanson dailies, or is it under the lead of the Thompson triumvirate?

Much has been said already—too much, in fact, everything considered. But perhaps every angle of the situation has not been full measured and every element in it fairly evaluated. We ought to seek the truth and profit by it.

That Alabama has cause for shame over the evils of the night floggings that have been brought to light cannot be doubted. That the above referred to daily papers have rendered a real public service by their part in the awakening that has been brought to our citizenship cannot be disputed successfull. But that this shame has been magnified and this good service discounted by reason of the policies pursued by some of these newspapers must be evident to the vast body of intelligent readers throughout this commonwealth.

It is unfortunate that an outbreak of flogging by bands of men or women, masked or unmasked, has occurred in Alabama, though it might be safe to regard it more as a rash on the body politic rather than a constitutional disease. At the same time it is unfortunate that the treatment administered at the hands of those who have taken it upon themselves to direct the publicity in the case has been such as to inflame a large part of the public mind and to arouse general resentment.

It is nothing short of a tragedy that several of the most widely circulated daily papers in Alabama have failed thus far to catch step with those elements of progress that make for the highest good of our country; have failed to so order their policies concerning public questions as to make them appear consistent with the more worthy professions proclaimed at other times, and in those failures have lost the highest degree of respect and confidence of the citizenship. A newspaper may be independent financially, but in proportion as it lacks the moral support of its constituency it is poor and lame and impotent.

The great body of the people of Alabama is not composed of fools or lawless folk. They do not have to be educated by incubator methods into the realization that mob law is pernicious, nor do they have to be jerked up by the hair of the head to be made to do their duty in the premises. Least of all is this true as applied to the clergy and the country press. Most of the representatives of these classes have been on the firing line in every battle in the long warfare against ignorance and outlawry during their adult years, fighting "for God and home and native land."

Even the erudite editors of our great dailies might learn this lesson from "one of the least of these": when the judgment of the majority of the rank and file of the God-fearing, native-born citizens of the state is made up, it is almost certain to be found in line with truth and right. Instead of trying to stampede the public and change the political complexion of the state overnight by a volume of invectives aimed promiscuously at floggers, the Ku Klux Klan, certain public men, editors and ministers of the Gospel, these prominent editors would do well to take counsel of prudence and time their gear to work in harmony with the steady processes of reason and justice.

That great mass of people above referred to has an idea, handed down from early Biblical history, that ministers of the Gospel, while human and therefore imperfect, are the special representatives of Jehovah. "Touch not mine anointed, and do my prophets no harm." And yet we have witnessed the amazing spectacle of newspaper editors, while vehemently decrying cave man methods and the use of the lash upon those regarded as moral pests, figuratively using the bludgeon upon the heads of holy men of God who dared to challenge the peremptory demands made upon them by men working over-time in a crusade that is certainly not as fundamental or far-reaching as the every-day work in which our ministers and their followers are engaged. Yet the work and influence of these have been jeopardized at the hands of such editors and furthermore by the intemperate assaults of a group of correspondents which the proper use of the editorial prerorgative would not have permitted to insult readers of decent sensibilities. And the ministers thus held up to public scorn are the same "political parsons" that these same political papers tried to "scourge back into their pulpits" in 1909, when a far more momentous fight for civic righteousness was being waged. "Lest we forget."

Should the same tactics which these editors have used and advocated have been adopted by our preachers, in all their vindictiveness and harsh denunciation, every thoughtful person must realize that disruption and reaction would necessarily have followed. Conservative people will also doubtless conclude that these vitriolic newspapers would be in better position and their cause further advanced but for their ill-advised efforts to control public sentiment and affect legislation.

And this is not an apology for flogging, which is inexcusable and anarchistic; it is not a defense of ministers or any other class, for they need no defense; it is not written in behalf of the Klan or the Graves administration, for the writer has never been a member of that organization and did not vote for Col. Graves; it is not a spiteful fling at our great newspapers, for they are great in many respects, and the undersigned, being a newspaper man, has a fellow feeling for every member of the craft; but it is a sincere plea for truth and fair play, for that tolerance so much preached and often so little practiced, and for such a recognition of general conditions and individual responsibilities as will make for greater harmony and better results in the years ahead.

OLIN H. STEVENSON.

Editor Roanoke Leader, Roanoke, Ala., August 20, 1927.

JEFFERSON JURY TO CALL EDITOR

Special Flogging Body To Probe Attack on Solicitor in The American Standard

BIRMINGHAM, ALA., Sept. 12.—(AP)—Alleged editorial attacks on Solicitor James Davis, of Jefferson county by Marshall Lewis, editor of "The American Standard," a local publication, will be investigated when a special grand jury reconvenes tomorrow to continue its inquiry into recent flogging in the county.

Summons for Lewis to appear before the grand jury was issued Saturday. The American Standard is said to be a Ku Klux Klan publication.

During the recess of two days, authorities have been busy compiling evidence in several new flogging cases. Attorney General Charlie C. McCall of Alabama, will return to Birmingham to direct the work of the jury. Mr. McCall said last week he had sufficient evidence to indict several persons in connection with masked floggings and Saturday invited all persons in Alabama who had been whipped by masked men to report the details to his office.

Specific cases under inquiry by the grand jury are the floggings of Arthur Hitt, negro; Dan Mitchell, commercial artist; Eston Murchison, Bessemer youth, and Lowell Bolton, of Tarrant City.

M'CALL TO MAGIC CITY.

Attorney General Charlie C. McCall, after spending the week-end with his family in Montgomery, returned early Monday afternoon to Birmingham, to resume his work in assisting Circuit Solicitor Jim Davis, to investigate and prosecute the various flogging cases now pending in Jefferson county.

Attorney General McCall has already presented to the Jefferson county grand jury, the case of John L. Bolton, who has twice been dragged from his home and beaten by a band of unmasked men. The grand jury is expected to report its action on this case, some time Tuesday.

The attorney general said Monday, just before his departure from Montgomery, that Solicitor Davis is cooperating with him fully in every way, in his efforts to bring the perpetrators of the Jefferson county floggings to justice.

Ku Klux Klan - 1927

Alabama

CROP JUMPING BILL AND ANTI-FLOGGING MEASURES PASSED

Will Become Law With Governor's Signature; Over 90 Measures Approved by Senate Tuesday

Despite the protests of Senator Ellis of Shelby, the upper house of the Alabama legislature Tuesday afternoon passed the bill by Representative Brunson which is calculated to protect land owners against "crop jumping" by a vote of 18 to 7.

This measure was one of more than 75 house measures which were passed by the senate, including the Tompkins anti-flogging bill.

"Wrapped up in the Brunson bill is the age-old question of the classes against the masses," said Senator Ellis in attacking the anti-claim jumping measure. "This bill seems to work an additional hardship on the poor land tenants, in that it requires contracts from them in favor of those who are in position to break contracts."

The Brunson measure provides several penalty for the deliberate abandonment of an undeveloped crop by land tenants, and makes additional arrangements for giving bond in cases of abandonment.

The anti-flogging bill, which makes it a felony punishable by imprisonment from one to ten years to whip or assault anyone while wearing mask or hood, was called up and passed by unanimous vote. The upper house did not enter a discussion of the measure.

Companion bills by Representative Miller of Sumter, providing for the issuance of $20,000,000 school bonds and the apportionment of proceeds among the various counties of the state, to be used for buildings and maintenance also passed without difficulty.

Among the bills which were defeated by the senate was a measure by Representative Simpson, amending sections 10293 and 10300 of the code, by raising the salary of Judge Anderson's secretary $25 per month.

Another Simpson bill, further defining the practice of law was rejected by the senate. This bill sought to prevent justices of the peace and others from drawing up legal papers and instruments.

Senator Justice of Elmore led a successful fight against Representative Darden's anti-Sunday fishing bill, which sought to prevent fishing on Sunday in Coosa, Elmore and Tallapoosa counties. The senate adopted an amendment to the measure by Senator Justice, removing Elmore and Talla-

The following bills were passed by the senate Tuesday:

By Mr. Powell, submitting a constitutional amendment for the purpose of fixing salaries and allowances of the probate judge, tax assessor and collector and solicitor of Walker county.

By Mr. Powell, amending section 13 of the gasoline tax of 1923.

By Mr. McAdory, authorizing and regulating the fraternal benefit societies into stock insurance companies or mutual life insurance companies.

By Mr. Goodwyn, amending section 1187 of the code.

By Mr. Howard, amending the act prescribing qualifications of persons who may hold office of county superintendent of education in the counties of Alabama, permitting the employment of a non-resident as county superintendent.

By Mr. Tompkins, prohibiting the whipping, flogging, beating or assault by person or persons masked or having their faces concealed.

THE KLAN WOULD STRIKE DOWN A FREE AND UNTRAMMELED PRESS IN ALABAMA!

Horace Wilkinson, of Birmingham, the attorney who defended the Tarrant City floggers who assaulted a Blount citizen (two of whom have gone to the penitentiary and four to jail and all have been fined heavily) after a conference with Governor Bibb Graves, Klansman, wrote two revolutionary libel laws and hurriedly handed them to Representative Frey of Jefferson. He urged Frey to rush their introduction. This Frey did and the house judiciary committee has now voted a favorable report on the two bills.

Horace Wilkinson not only is the retained lawyer of convicted floggers, but is a former cyclops of the Woodlawn Klan in Jefferson county.

Representative Frey, who introduced Wilkinson's bills—written apparently in collaboration with Governor Graves—is a law partner of Jim Esdale, grand dragon of the Klan in Alabama, who aided and abetted the Tarrant City Klansmen in their trial at Oneonta, and who sneered at the Attorney-General of Alabama for prosecuting these floggers.

These bills are designed to kill freedom of the press in Alabama. They are designed to punish those newspapers that have been instrumental in bringing masked floggers to justice and have demanded the passage of a law to prohibit mask-wearing.

It is a direct assault upon the precious principle of freedom of the pres sby the Invisible Empire. Its purpose is to punish this press for past sins against the Invisible Empire and to make it dangerous for this press to continue its criticisms of the hood and its denunciations of crimes committed under protection of the hood.

These two bills are aimed primarily at a few large newspapers in Alabama, but they make no exceptions. All newspapers, large and small, would be hog-tied and subject to malicious prosecution in every county in which they circulate. They not only could be punished in future, but the laws would be retroactive for a year, so that every editor in Alabama would be subject to prosecution for offenses committed during the past twelve months.

The Klan bills are amazing and revolutionary. The first one reads:

Section 1. A right of action is hereby given and granted to any incorporated city or town of this state, to any county thereof and to the State of Alabama against any person, firm or corporation publishing or circulating a newspaper of any kind or description in which libelous matter is published concerning any such city, town or State, or the people thereof.

Section 2. Such suits shall be prosecuted by the atotrney general, when brought on behalf of the State of Alabama; by the county or circuit solicitor for any county of this State and by the mayor or his attorney on behalf of any city or town.

Section 3. Such suits may be prosecuted by the attorney general, when containing the libelous matter was circulated.

Section 4. In all such suits the plaintiff shall be entitled to such damages as the jury may assess and no court shall have any authority to mitigate or reduce such verdict.

Section 5. Such suits may be brought within two years after the publication of the matter complained of and not afterwards.

Section 6. This act shall become effective on its approval by the governor and shall be retroactive for a period of one year prior thereto.

Section 7. If any sentence, clause, phrase, word, paragraph or section of this act shall be held unconstitutional, it shall not effect the remainder of this act.

Section 8. All laws and parts of laws in conflict herewith be and the same are hereby repealed.

The second bill is equally drastic. The text of it is as follows:

Section 1. Any person, firm or corporation who publishes in any newspaper published or circulated in this state any false and libelous matter concerning the state of Alabama or its people, any county thereof, or its people, or any incorporated city or town therein, or its people, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon conviction thereof shall be fined not less than one hundred dollars, nor more than twenty-five thousand dollars in the discretion of the jury (if tried by jury) or of the judge if tried without a jury. All fines imposed under this act when collected shall be paid over to the State of Alabama, the county, city or town, as the case may be.

Section 2. All laws or parts of law in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

Section 3. This act shall become effective when approved by the governor.

Section 4. Prosecutions under this act may be had in any county where the newspaper containing the libelous matter was circulated.

Under these bills any editor in Alabama could be put on the rack for one or more offenses against persons, communities or what-not during the past twelve months. He could be convicted of a libel committed before the same became unlawful. He could be fined, and no higher court could reduce the sum assessed against him by a jury! At present a newspaper can be sued only in the county of publication. Under these acts a weekly paper could be sued in every county in its Congressional district and a larger daily in every county in the State—under certain conditions. A newspaper published in Mobile, Birmingham or Montgomery, for example, might be tried by a jury of unfriendly Klansmen in the remotest county in the State, and fined heavily.

It is a malicious, tyrannical, outrageous scheme to bulldoze and punish a free press —all because of the war that this free press has made on the evils that have grown out of mask-wearing in Alabama

BIRMINGHAM, ALA.
News
JUL 27 1927

"Lay Off The Hitt Case!" The Klan's Threat To Davis

In warning Solicitor Davis "to lay off the Hitt case"—the case of Arthur Hitt, the negro resident of Jefferson County, who was flogged almost into lifelessness in an effort to compel him he says, to sell the 60-acre farm he had spent 30 years in buying and tending—a representative of the Ku Klux Klan reveals what the public has long suspected to be that organization's conception of law enforcement and the administration of justice, or, at least, the conception held by that element of the organization with which the public has most frequently come in contact.

Unwittingly, this representative of the Klan does this community real service. He brings home to all its citizens the grave danger that now hangs over their heads. He presents in vivid, concrete fashion the actual terrors, the actual tyrannies, that really lurk in this rule of mask and lash.

Incidentally, this intimidating Klansman, and the friend who accompanied him when Solicitor Davis was served with this warning, provided Mr. Davis with an opportunity for public service perhaps undreamed of until yesterday by this solicitor. Unless all real friends of Mr. Davis gravely err in their estimate of his temper and character, he will answer this insolent challenge of the Klan's representative in a way that will make a record for himself and history for Jefferson County.

It is not to be wondered at that this threat has been made by the Klan's representative against one of this county's high officials. It is the Klan's boast that it controls the governor's office, that it rules the sheriff's office in various counties, that its friends are seated high in the courts of justice. It is charged that this machinery of justice, now said to be in hands of Klansmen, has been, and will be, perverted to serve the Klan's ends—to punish the Klan's foes and to reward the Klan's friends.

From the statement made on Tuesday last by Mr. Davis, it would seem that there is more than moonshine in this astounding charge. He is now on record as assuring the public that he will see this thing through and do his duty as a citizen, clothed with official power. This assurance of his makes men breathe more easily in this town and in this county. Behind him, supporting him unstintedly, is every law-abiding citizen that the hood can not terrify and the robe can not intimidate.

The Hitt case is one of the focal points in the fight now on. If it be true that Klansmen, or men in the Klan's regalia, have flogged this honest old negro and terrified him into disposing of his little farm, it follows that this act of brigandage—that is what it is, brigandage—makes insecure all other property in this county. Today it may be a defenseless negro who is robbed of his property rights. Tomorrow it may be some defenseless white man. Today it may be a little farm that is wrested from its owner; tomorrow it may be some big property in town that these floggers may set their eye on.

Solicitor Davis knows all this. He understands that, in a very real sense, this Hitt case is the case of every property holder in Jefferson County from the owner of some small home in the suburbs of Birmingham to the owner of some skyscraper in the downtown section. This threat of this Klansman against Mr. Davis is a threat aimed directly at every property holder in Jefferson County. One heartening feature about this Hitt case is that all property owners here realize that each one of them may be stripped of his property, even as Arthur Hitt charges that he was stripped of his property, if the rule of mask and lash is not stamped out, and stamped out promptly. Whether the courts hold Hitt's charges true, or false, as long as flogging is a safe sport in Jefferson County, as long as the mask is a constant permit to lawlessness, there is grave danger that wearers of masks and bearers of lashes will vent their covetousness in fashion similar to that charged by the negro, Hitt.

"All human government," said Daniel Webster, in an unforgettable case, "rests upon the right to, and security of, private property." That sentence cost Mr. Webster the presidency, but it is nevertheless true. The right to private property is the prime thing that distinguishes civilized man from savage man. This threat made by this representative of the Klan is nothing less than a challenge made by savagery to civilization.

The eyes of Birmingham, Jefferson and Alabama are now justly riveted upon Jim Davis, solicitor for Jefferson County,

RENEWED EFFORT BY M'CALL TO HALT FLOGGING IS SEEN

Jefferson Grand Jury Reopens Probe of Hitt Case; New Lash Revelations Are Expected

BIRMINGHAM, ALA., Sept. 6.—Special to The Advertiser.—Working behind closed doors and with the utmost secrecy surrounding their investigations, a Jefferson county grand jury was believed to be probing the numerous floggings that have occurred in Birmingham and vicinity during the past few months.

Further surprises were expected when it was learned from Montgomery that Charlie McCall, attorney general, was on his way to Birmingham to bring before the grand jury flogging cases which have not yet been made public.

Witnesses standing before the door of the grand jury room were heard by an Age-Herald reporter to discuss property values in the vicinity where W. J. Worthington, reputed cyclops of the Avondale klan bought Arthur Hitt's property at a price which relators assert is far below the market value of the farm.

The fact that home owners in the vicinity were appearing before the grand jury led to the belief that the Hitt case was under investigation. Hitt, an aged negro, was flogged and forced to part with a 60 acre farm for slightly more than $900.

J. F. Smith, real estate man, said Tuesday that Worthington, who owns several hundred acres of land in the vicinity of the Hitt place, had offered to sell property that he had purchased from the Louisville and Nashville Railroad company for $125 an acre, provided the buyer would take 800 acres. That property, Smith said, cost Worthington from $3 to $7 an acre—while that purchased from Hitt cost slightly more than $15 an acre.

Other flogging cases which may be investigated are the Murchison and Mitchell cases.

Attorney General Charlie C. McCall when asked Tuesday afternoon concerning a news item appearing in a Birmingham paper to the effect that he had issued a statement announcing he would go to Birmingham to prosecute flogging cases now pending before the Jefferson circuit court—said he had no plans along those lines, and had not been asked to do so by the Jefferson county solicitor.

It is common knowledge about the capitol, however, that Attorney General McCall, with the convictions obtained at Oneonta, in the Jeff Calloway flogging case, to his credit—has just begun his campaign against floggers and flogging in Alabama, and it is freely predicted that the next two months will see the attorney general busy night and day toward the accomplishment of this objective.

The attorney general left Tuesday night for Birmingham. He made no announcement as to the mission that took him there, but there appears to be little doubt that this mission is either to pursue one of the many flogging investigations which he is known to be conducting out of his office—or else to bring to a head an investigation already completed.

FLORENCE JURY TO REPORT.

FLORENCE, ALA., Sept. 6.—Special to The Advertiser.—The grand jury of the circuit court of Lauderdale county, now in session here, will reach the case of Miss Marie Bishop, alleged flogging victim, either Wednesday or Thursday, according to reports at the courthouse late Tuesday.

LAW HAS NOT STOPPED THE LASH IN ALABAMA

Thirteen Flogged Within the Last Few Weeks.

9 IN TALLADEGA COUNTY

Druggist Beaten and Ordered to Leave the County—Principal Thrashed Because He Punished Pupils—Davis on Vacation.

By The Associated Press.

BIRMINGHAM, Ala., Aug. 14.—Four new investigations into hooded floggings have been started in four Central Alabama counties by county and federal officers as a result of the whipping of 13 persons within the last few weeks.

Nine of the victims of masked mobs were residents of Talladega County. P. H. Debardeleben, a druggist, was ordered to sell his business and leave the county. Clawson Wyatt, M. C. Mathis, P. L. and W. P. Germany, farmers, could give no reason for being whiped. Officials said W. B. Price, principal of the Winterborough Consolidated High School had been flogged supposedly because he punished three small girls in his classes. Then Purvis, W. C. Malone, J. V. Jones and a negro were the other victims.

Fred Inman of Randolph County, who was flogged last spring "because he refused to permit his wife to visit her relatives," has since died of typhoid fever, county officials said. Inman had been preparing to appear before a grand jury investigating his case.

Federal officers who are investigating the whipping of two young men in St. Clair County refused to divulge information regarding the case. The men were said to have been taken from the aMrgaret Mines strung up by their wrists and severely beaten by masked men.

In Calhoun County Will Rutledge a negro, told officers he was taken from his home and lashed by several masked men who accused him of bootlegging. Rutledge also said his assailants took $46 he had in his pants at the time of the flogging.

Meanwhile Jefferson County Grand Jury inquiry into the whipping of Arthur Hitt, negro, and Dan Mitchell, a commercial artist, was to be started immediately on the return to Birmingham of Solicitor James Davis, who has been on a vacation tour of the north, in addition to investigating the two floggings, the jury was expected to hear testmony of James Esdale, grand dragon of the Ku Klux Klan in Alabama.

Solicitor Davis announced prior to leaving Birmingham that the klan chief would be called to explain threats against the county pros-

Ku Klux Klan-1927

Good Men In Klan's Garb Should Quit, Declares Judge Clayton

BY JUDGE HENRY D. CLAYTON

Presiding in the United States Court for th Middle District of Alabama, at Montgomer;

Recent and almost daily happenings, current history, warrant those who believe i government of laws and not of men, in declaring opposition to all secret organizations under whatsoever name, that assume the rights to administer corrective or punitive justice according to the tenets and oaths o their members—men without the authority of law.

Such acts have at different times in the history of our country contributed to the idea that government, local or general, has failed to perform its functions and that the citizens have found it necessary to do these things to remedy governmental deficiencies It is true that the people have the right to revolutionize or to change their government whenever they deem it wise to do so; but it is quite a different thing for this set of men or that set of men to undertake outside of the law to declare that the government is inefficient and to arrogate to themselves the power, independent of established public authority, to furnish supplemental remedies.

* * *

There is no place for an invisible empire in the United States, nor any reason for clan or gang to do any part of the business of governing or correcting or punishing citizens or a citizen. A secret organization for such purposes is reprehensible, notwithstanding avowals of its members that they have benevolent objects and have sworn in secret meetings to uphold the Constitution of the United States. Such avowals are conspiracies against law and government. They are without lawful power to try any man for anything or to condemn and punish any citizen for any dereliction or crime, and whenever they do try and punish a citizen they violate not only the law, organic and statutory, but they offend the very spirit of the law and do an incalculable wrong to society.

The good men who have joined such organizations ought to sever their relations.

* * *

Marked secret societies cannot justify their existence by the facts of history, as it can be demonstrated. It is familiar that in the days of '49 in California in the excitement incident to the discovery of gold there, murders and robberies in that mining region became so frequent that good citizens formed the vigilantes for the restoration of law and order. Conditions there were chaotic and crime was rampant. We know that just as soon as, and it was soon, the courts could function, the organization disappeared, for it was entirely useless in organized and ordered society.

It will also be remembered that in the early days of reconstruction some good citizens of Tennessee organized the first Ku Klux Klan. It is authentic that the first thought and object was to have merely a social or benevolent fraternity. It is also history that in those unhappy hours of our republic there was no civil government of or by the people of the south, who had been defeated in arms but there was the rule of the carpet-bagger and the scalawag in control of ignorant negroes in brutal numbers.

* * *

These carpet-bag and scalawag vultures were vested with power by the government at Washington and their decrees were enforcible by a triumphant and present military. The gleam of bristling bayonets controlled the situation and illumined the hard conditions imposed. "The gladsome light of jurisprudence" did not show the pathway.

The klan conceived the idea of aiding in the restoration of self-government, the preservation of the white man's civilization, and believed it better to appeal to the superstition and fear of the ignorant and misguided, rather than to force. We had well-nigh forgotten until within the last two or three years the regrettable things of those unhappy times. The klan was investigated by congress, the facts revealed and opinions and arguments advanced. These need not now be recited.

However, let us remember that within one year after the klan was born those who had used it under conditions most distressing disbanded and declared it at an end. And it is not to be forgotten that after the good men had discarded that organization, bad men took it up and in garbs and shrouds and masks, in the darkness perpetrated outrages against black people and white people as well.

A half century and more has gone since the ordeals of the sixties. Of those sad days we were trying to remember only the valor and sacrifice of soldiers and sailors, Confederate and Union. We were in the twilight between memory and forgetfulness where heroism with its sufferings and with its achievements and its failures as well could be seen in the soft light, and yet where the evening shade had come to obscure the asperity and cruelty of unhappy sectional differences. Long since the reunited country had accepted the lofty sentiment of the beloved McKinley, one of the very sweetest souls that ever dwelt in the white house, who felicitated the advent of the day when in fraternal friendliness the Union soldier could put flowers on the grave of the Confederate soldier and the Confederate soldier could pay the same loving tribute to the Union soldier.

* * *

The astonishing thing is that after all these years and in these times of peace in our land, with orderly government functioning everywhere, the justice of the peace in the remote hamlet and the supreme court of the United States at Washington—all other governmental agencies between these two extremes of judicial authority operating in orderly fashion—it is, I repeat, strange indeed that men should feel called upon to organize themselves into unlawful combinations to try and condemn their fellow citizens in secret and to inflict punishment in darkness.—Birmingham News.

ALABAMA'S GOOD NAME VINDICATED

The conviction of the first man tried for the kidnaping and flogging of Jeff Calloway of Oneonta comes as a breath of fresh, cool air in a fetid room.

One Doss, the first man up, gets a sentence of from eight to ten years in the penitentiary, due to the foresight of Attorney-General Charlie C. McCall in asking for and obtaining an indictment for kidnaping as well as for participation in the flogging.

The Advertiser thinks the people of Alabama should give Charlie McCall the majesty of the law in a manner consonant with the better traditions of the bench.

ple of manly courage and conscientious devotion to public duty than Mr. McCall has demonstrated in this case. Mr. McCall is reputed to be a Klansman and was elected to office by the Klan. At one time he was so close a friend of Jim Esdale, grand dragon of the Klan in Alabama, that a few months ago he sought to have Esdale appointed an assistant Attorney-General. When the fact came to light that Klansmen had committed a series of outrageous floggings in Alabama within recent months, the first reported being the Calloway case, the public naturally asked "What will McCall do now?"

The public did not have long to wait for its answer. McCall hit the hooded liner hard. He pulled the mask from Jim Esdale's face and tweaked that cynical adventurer's nose. He not only publicly called on Esdale to assist in uncovering and prosecuting the floggers, but summoned Esdale as a witness. Because the Klan was known to be guilty of this attack on Jeff Calloway, McCall prosecuted the Klan without evasion, and pressed his cause until he developed the truth.

Charlie McCall conducted his case with acumen, courage and energy. He did all that could be expected of a gentleman and a patriot in the premises, and The Advertiser which on other occasions has found fault with the young Attorney-General of Alabama, wishes publicly to congratulate him and to acknowledge its new sense of appreciation of him. His associates in the trial of this case likewise should be felicitated for their splendid services in the name of civilization and the dignity of law.

Judge O. A. Steele, who presided in the trial of Doss, has established a Statewide reputation as the result of his stern and enlightened course. He has upheld the majesty of the law in a manner consonant with the better traditions of the bench. Governor Graves, it should be said, actively demonstrated in this case. Mr. McCall is reputed to be a Klansman and was elected to office by the Klan. At one time he was so close a friend of Jim Esdale, grand dragon of the Klan in Alabama, that a few months ago he sought to have Esdale appointed an assistant Attorney-General. When the fact came to light that Klansmen had committed a series of outrageous floggings in Alabama within recent months, the first reported being the Calloway case, the public naturally asked "What will McCall do now?"

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Alabama

4-5-27

Montgomery Adv.

Hughes and Tidwell, whose confessions were wrung from them by officers of the State, simplified the problem of identifying the guilty parties, deserve leniency at the hands of the court, to which they were of so much assistance in getting the truth about a crime done under protection of the mask. Hughes declares that repeated threats of violence have been made against him by Klansmen interested in coercing him into silence; he was even told that he would be killed if he didn't keep quiet. But he didn't keep quiet. He told hte whole story, as did Tidwell.

Surely these men deserve reward.

This magnificent triumph by the agencies of light and law over the forces of anarchy and darkness marks the beginning of a new day in Alabama. Here is the way to put the fear of God into midnight floggers. Let us rejoice that the way has been found. Let us hope, too, that equally good work will be done in the cases of the same kind yet to be tried, not only in Blount, but in Jefferson and Randolph counties.

Finally, let us remember, in justice to Blount county, that Jeff Calloway was not kidnaped and assaulted by Blount county selectmen will do as well when the county men, but by Jefferson county men, time comes for them to sit in a jury box and that he was whipped in Jefferson and pass upon similar cases county—but that, to the glory of an outraged citizenship in Blount, it was selected men from that county who convicted the floggers. Let us hope that Jefferson

BRUCE LINKS KLAN WITH A 'WET' SOUTH

n Virginia Speech Senator Says Prohibition and Floggings Flourish Together.

URGES ELECTION OF SMITH

Denounces Servility of Congress to Anti-Saloon League in Reply to Wheeler Aide.

From a Staff Correspondent of The New York Times.

CHARLOTTEVILLE, Va., Aug. 10. —Declaring Governor Smith to be the most desirable Democratic Presidential candidate, Senator Bruce of Maryland minced n words in attacking the attitude of the South on prohibition tonight in an address before the Institute of Public Affairs, classing prohibition and the Ku Klux Klan as "twin cherries that flourish together wherever you find a community in which sectarian bigotry is rife in its most rabid and repulsive forms and masked men and hooded miscreants flog old men, boys and women," he said. "The dry South belongs to the province of dry humor."

He asserted that "the flood of liquor underground is almost as full as it has ever flowed above ground." Enforcement conditions were "rotten to the core," and the whole prohibition law was "blighting, demoralizing and corrupting."

Senator Bruce spoke in reply to Edward B. Dunford, chief aide of Wayne B. Wheeler, and assistant general counsel of the Anti-Saloon League who, in a morning address had pictured the blessings of prohibition, denied that drinking among the youth of the country was a dangerous symptom and held up Maryland and New York as nullification States.

Urges Election of Smith.

In advocating remedies for the evils he alleged had grown out of prohibition, Senator Bruce said:

"The first step should be to elect some such Democrat as Alfred E. Smith of New York, Albert C. Ritchie of Maryland, or James A. Reed of Missouri, or some such Republican as Nicholas Murray Butler of New York, James Wadsworth of New York or Walter E. Edge of New Jersey, to the Presidency on a platform calling for the modification of the Volstead Act and the Eighteenth Amendment.

"The next step should be to modify the Volstead Act in such a manner as to permit the use of beer with as high an alcoholic content as can be produced without dishonest evasion of the Eighteenth Amendment. Both General Andrews and James C. Waddell, the recent head of the alcohol and brewery control squad of the prohibition unit, have expressed the opinion that the general use of such a beer would distinctly improve the present situation. It would at least tend to wipe out the grossly invidious discriminations against the less fortunate members of society which the practical workings of prohibition now make in favor of those who either own their own pre-prohibition stocks of liquor or can afford to pay high bootleg prices.

Advocates Quebec System.

"The next step shoud be to amend the Eighteenth Amendment in such a manner as to empower Congress to establis ha system of liquor control, compounded partly of Government supervision and partly of local option, akin to that which is now being administered in the Province of Quebec."

Senator Bruce did not hesitate to accuse the South of being wet.

"Of the illicit plants and agencies seized by the Federal Prohibition Unit in 1925," he said, "70 per cent. were in the 'dry' States of Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas and Virginia.

"More distilleries and fermenters were seized in Georgia in the fiscal year 1925 than in any other State in the Union and last year in Atlanta, Ga., more persons were brought into the police station, according to newspaper clippings, on Easter Sunday than on any other day in history. When I was making up a compilation of arrests for drunkenness in cities, I found that in Richmond and New Orleans the arrests in 1924 were in excess of the number of the last pre-prohibition year."

Denounces Anti-Saloon League.

He denounced the Anti-Saloon League for its assumption of powers before which, he said, Congress showed almost "abject servility." "The gravest responsibility to which prohibition is amenable is that of having called such an organization as the Anti-Saloon League into life," he continued. "This league is partly political and partly clerical. That is to say, political enough to discredit the church by bringing it into intimate contact with the mercenary and squalid side of political activity and clerical enough to be a deadly menace to the independence of the State.

"If the Catholic Church had set up in this country the kind of vatican that the League has set up at Washington and had collected the kind of Peter's pence in this country that the League has collected a mighty shout of protect would have ascended from one end of the American continent to the other.

"As I see it, national prohibition has not subserved one useful purpose unless it be of monitory value when the American people shall retrace their steps and go back to the crossroads where in an evil hour they deserted the open highway which was conducting them safely to temperance for the mire and miasma of the prohibition bog."

Attacks Smith and Ritchie.

Mr. Dunford in his speech took up various proposals to modify the Volstead law and the Eighteenth Amendment and rejected them all as either a surrender of State rights to complete Federal control or a return to entire freedom of liquor sales. The suggestion that the alcohol content of beer might be raised moderately without ill-effect was placing "too much confidence in brewers who had never shown any respect for law."

The executives of Maryland and New York, he declared, were violating their oath of office when they continued to oppose State enforcement acts, since the Constitution placed concurrent power of enforcement with the States. For three years there had been no help from the State in the case of New York, he said, but the overwhelming majority had respected the law. He pointed to education as the solution for the existing opposition to the law.

Mark Graves, New York State Tax Commissioner, at his round table defended the growing costs of education. More than 25 per cent. of all governmental expenditures in the country were for education, in 1925, he said, amounting to $2,167,000,000. Replying to the criticism that educational expenses should not increase faster than population, he showed that attendance at elementry schools had increased 156 per cent. and at high schools 2,465 per cent. from 1890 to 1924, while population had increased only 79 per cent.

A Fearless Newspaper Defies Fortified Bigotry

In Alabama the domination of the Ku Klux Klan has lately resulted in flogging outrages which are horrifying and, to any one who thinks of America as a civilization astounding. Of course, the best citizenship of the state revolts against such crimes, and we haven't the least doubt that, in Alabama as in the milder situation in Indiana, the klan evil will be stamped out. But meanwhile the klan is entrenched in political power. The present governor, Graves, and a considerable part, if not a majority, of the legislature are apparently either in the membership or under its influence. Fortunately, good citizenship has its voice and a part of the Alabama press cannot be bought or bullied into silence. The Birmingham News, especially, is fighting the klan with unflinching courage and eloquence. In a series of news articles the News exposed the flogging atrocities and followed up the disclosures with vigorous demands for action by the authorities. The day after one of the most powerful of these arraignments there appeared in the Alabama legislature the extraordinary Frey bills, described in a recent Tribune editorial. If enacted, they would have paralyzed legitimate criticism of public evils and even their disclosure. They would have made a mockery of the guaranty of free speech and free press of the Alabama—and they were introduced in the interest of an organization that pretends to be a defender of Americanism and American institutions?

Yet these measures would have been passed, The News says, had it not been for adjournment of the Alabama senate.

The situation is one of the most remarkable in the history of our politics. But there should be little temptation to throw stones. The klan is not confined to Alabama, and the abyss of ignorance and bigotry which produces the Alabama floggings is not a monopoly of any state. It exists, in more or less extent in every section, wearing the colors of patriotism and the forms of piety, sometimes virulent and openly insolent, sometimes seemingly moderate and almost conciliatory. It is not in its more crass and brutal expression, as in Alabama, that it is most to be feared, but in its insidious and highly respectable manifestations, seeking power under the guise of organized moralities and invading step by step the domain of private conscience. So far as Alabama is concerned, we are confident the character and conscience of its citizenship, once awake, will dispose of what The Birmingham News calls "the hideous rule of mask and lash." But, as we have said of the regime of organized bigotry in Indiana, we hope the citizenship of the state will not be content with destroying the instrument. We hope it will go on to root out the sources of the klan's power, the narrow and purblind sectarianism, the savage race prejudice, and the spirit of intolerance which makes the klan and its outrages possible. The growth of intolerance in recent years, passing itself off as zeal for public morals, is the most sinister appearance in American life, and if it is not to destroy the harmony and progress of the American people it will have to be resisted persistently and intelligently. We need a new dedication of the American spirit to tolerance and to freedom.

Meanwhile The Birmingham News is making a high place for itself in the history of the free press of America. Its courage and loyalty to the ideals of our county are an inspiration to all American newspapers which intend to own their own souls and fight for our heritage of freedom and good will.—Chicago Tribune.

WATSON FORESEES NO EXTRA SESSION

Ample Flood Relief Can Be Had Without Special Meeting of Congress, Senator Adds.

FINDS KLAN SWAY WANING

Indiana Leader, Here, Believes Vare and Smith Will Be Barred From Seats.

No extra session of Congress is required to provide flood relief and none will be called by President Coolidge, according to Senator James E. Watson of Indiana who added in an interview yesterday that he did not think the Democrats would press a proposal which is advocated by Republicans of such prominence as Senator Smoot of Utah. Senator Watson pointed out that he was in a position to discuss the subject with some knowledge of the facts inasmuch as he had been Chairman of the Flood Relief Commission which met recently in Chicago.

"I am strongly and unalterably opposed to an extraordinary session of Congress," Senator Watson said at the Waldorf. "It could serve no useful purpose. We reached that conclusion at the Flood Relief Conference in Chicago over which I happened to preside. Secretary Hoover who has done most wonderful work in the flooded area assured us that there was available without action by Congress all the funds necessary for temporary relief and that the task remaining for Congress was to provide for permanent relief in the nature of flood prevention."

Senator Watson said that some seventy engineers, some affiliated with the Army Engineering Corps were now making a survey in minute detail to lay a foundation for Congressional relief of a permanent character.

Attitude of Democrats.

"I do not believe Democratic members of Congress from the flooded area will raise any clamor for a special session of Congress," Senator Watson went on. "I called in Senator Pat Harrison from Mississippi and he is in thorough accord with me that the matter can be taken care of at the regular session of Congress which convenes in December. I do not think that any of the Democratic representatives in Congress from that section of the country would care to antagonize President Coolidge, upon whose action they are so largely dependent for adequate relief, when they know that the President is averse to a special session and receive assurances from a leader of their own party that there is no need for it."

Tax relief, flood prevention and the question affecting the seating of Senators-elect Frank L. Smith of Illinois and William S. Vare of Pennsylvania would be the first important matters to be taken up by the Seventieth Congress. Senator Watson said he believed the two Senators-elect would be barred from the Senate.

The Senator did not care to comment on the Klan situation in Indiana, which has been monopolizing public attention in the Hoosier State for some time through the revelations regarding deals between the Klan and the Hoosier Republicans made through former Grand Dragon D. C. Stephenson from his prison cell.

Klan's Power Diminished.

"The Klan at one time was 400,000 strong in Indiana and exercised considerable political sway, even dominating some party conventions, with the consequence that candidates had to watch their step," Senator Watson said. "It is no longer a potential factor in Indiana politics."

The third term is not an issue in Indiana, according to Senator Watson.

"It is not a real issue because a large majority of the Republicans in Indiana do not regard another term for President Coolidge as a third term. If President Coolidge wants the nomination and goes after it with all the machinery under his control and the organizing capacity his friends can place behind his candidacy, he will land it, beyond any doubt."

Senator Watson said that Vice President Dawes was "in no sense" a candidate for the Presidential nomination, "I speak with knowledge when I say that," he added.

Ku Klux Klan - 1927

Alabama.

ELLIS - WARE BILL WOULD ALLOW KLAN TO PARADE IN CITY

Measure Favored By Senate Would Nullify Montgomery And Mobile Ordinances Says Teasley

DOUBLE PRIMARY PROBE CONTINUED TO JULY 27

Coosa Citizens Protest Second Choice System At Committee Meeting

If the Ellis-Ware anti-flogging substitute to the Williams bill passes both houses of the legislature, Montgomery and Mobile will be deprived of the right to enforce anti-masking ordinances.

This statement was made Wednesday afternoon by Senator C. B. Teasley of Montgomery, who is to move a reconsideration Friday, of the vote by which the substitute was adopted by the senate.

Senator Teasley, in referring to this phase of the measure declared:

"Section 1 of the Ellis-Ware substitute will tie the hands of city authorities of Montgomery and Mobile, and will enable the klan or any other organization to mask and parade on the streets of these cities. This is provided in section 1, which states in part:

"'This shall not apply to any bona fide parade or public gathering of any lodge, fraternal order or secret society where such gathering or parade is under the supervision of its proper officers, when meeting or parading on the public highways or on the streets of any village, town or city in this state.

"This is clearly an adroit effort to get around city ordinances in Montgomery and Mobile which thus far have prevented masked demonstrations. Unless the Ellis-Ware substitute is defeated or amended, the bill will give klansmen a right to parade in Montgomery and city authorities and police will be helpless."

Senator Teasley's declaration was one of the more important developments of the day Wednesday, along with the hearings on the double primary and the Morgan county courthouse commission bills. The former measure was given a partial hearing by the senate committee on privileges and elections and will be reconsidered next Wednesday at 2 p. m. The senate local legislation committee devoted most of Wednesday afternoon to hearing proponents and opponents of the Patterson courthouse commission measure. The committee did not reach a vote on the bill, however, and will take the matter under advisement. A decision is expected later in the week.

[illegible] one of several who appeared before the committee on privileges and elections told the senate members that at least nine-tenths of the democratic voters of Coosa county are anxious for a return to the double primary voting system.

"We believe in majority rule in Coosa county because we know the principle is sound and right," said Dr. Jones. "Voters in Coosa are dissatisfied with the way primaries have been conducted in the past few years and are insisting that the old system be restored. For instance, during a recent county election, out of 1,750 votes cast the nominee actually drew but 450 votes. The man who was nominated was reported to be a socialist.

"This makeshift system of second choice voting is not worth a penny. In Coosa we have considerable opposition from the republican party and unless something is done to cope with the situation, a well organized republican minority will control the majority.

"During the election for governor I lost my vote, because I voted for McDowell on first choice and Graves on second. This is merely one of the many ways in which second choice voting is defective."

After Dr. Jones had predicted that nine-tenths of the voters of his county opposed the second choice voting method, this statement was reiterated by Bob Waldrop, also of Coosa, who strongly urged the passage of the double primary measure.

Judge Hugh A. Locke and Ben F. Ray of Birmingham were here to oppose the bill, but did not present their side, urging that the hearing be continued next week, in order that others who were anxious to appear before the committee to protest, could arrange to come to the capitol.

Edmund Pettus of Selma, chairman of the state democratic executive committee, a strong proponent of the measure, did not deliver his appeal preferring to wait until after the opposition has been heard.

Representative Darden of Coosa was the third to urge the senate to pass the double primary bill.

Before announcing the next date for the hearing, Chairman J. K. Thompson of Jackson, told those present that it was not the committee's intention of killing the bill by long and unnecessary delays.

Hearing on the Morgan county bill was a repetition of the committee hearing in the house and the debate on the floor when the bill came up for final passage before the junior legislative branch.

Representative Patterson, sponsor of the bill, directed the presentation of the measure, while Representative F. E. Burleson of Morgan, was the leader of the opponents.

Former Senator Hutson of Decatur, and former Speaker S. A. Lynne, also of Decatur, were the principal proponents of the measure. Representative Burleson and John M. Sample of Hartselle, solicitor of Morgan county spoke against the bill.

The Patterson measure names a commission to direct the building of a new Morgan county courthouse to supplant the structure partially destroyed last November by fire. Charges that the present board of revenue of Morgan have been negligent in providing for a new building, and have been indicted by a grand jury as a result, were the principal reasons advanced why the bill should be passed.

Letters from Senator Smith, who represents Morgan county, supporting the Patterson bill, were read to the senate. Mr. Lynne urged a favorable report of the measure on the basis of senatorial courtesy.

'AMERICAN STANDARD' EDITOR SUBPOENAED

BIRMINGHAM, ALA., Sept. 10.—Special to The Advertiser.—Solicitor Jim Davis issued a subpoena on two counts Saturday for the appearance of Marshall B. Lewis, editor and publisher of "The American Standard," of 119 1-2 Nineteenth street, reputed Ku Klux Klan newspaper before the Jefferson county grand jury next Tuesday, to explain articles published in the first issue of the paper, Friday.

The first issue of the publication is said to have contained attacks against Solicitor Davis, Police Chief Fred McDuff, Commissioner Taylor and others.

In issuing the subpoena Solicitor Davis said he particularly wanted an explanation of two questions asked in the article attacking him, viz: "Has Jim Davis ever been out on a flogging party?" and "is Jim Davis a member of the Ku Klux Klan?"

Certain officials Saturday expressed themselves as believing the new paper is sponsored by the Ku Klux Klan and organized principally by funds raised by the alleged band of 17 men who were thwarted in their plan to oust Police Chief McDuff from office several weeks ago.

Belief that the Ku Klux Klan is sponsoring "The American Standard," which declares it will "print the true facts about everything," is evidenced authorities say, by the publication's mild condemnation of floggings and its apparent sympathetic tone in some instances.

UNDERWOOD BACKS FIGHT AGAINST KLAN

Praises Alabama Publisher's Campaign Against Floggings and Political Control.

URGES AN UNMASKING LAW

Ex-Senator Tells V. H. Hanson He Has Quit Politics When Proposed for Presidency.

Special to The New York Times.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 21.—Former Senator Oscar W. Underwood has voiced in his plainspoken way his approval of the contest now being waged in Alabama to end Ku Klux Klan domination of the Democratic Party in that State, and at the same time to put behind prison bars every Klansman, or other person, who participates in floggings and such outrages. Mr. Underwood said that not until the Legislature of Alabama proclaims that honest men in that State have "no occasion to cover their faces in public," can those who are battling to eliminate the political control and curb the criminal activities of the Klan count the victory won.

Mr. Underwood conveyed his position to Victor H. Hanson of The Birmingham News, who has been from the start one of the leaders in the anti-Klan campaign. Day in and day out, through his papers, Mr. Hanson has attacked the masked bands. Recently a preacher wrote to Mr. Hanson asking him whom he favored for the Democratic nomination for President, and, in The Birmingham News, Mr. Hanson informed the inquirer that his choice was Oscar W. Underwood. Mr. Underwood, fromhis home in Virginia, wrote Mr. Hanson a letter thanking him for the compliment but assuring him that he was out of politics for all time. It was in this letter that he referred to the "criminal class of the Ku Klux Klan."

Mr. Underwood's Letter.

The Underwood letter, as published in The Birmingham News follows:

Oscar W. Underwood,
Woodlawn.
Aocotink, Va., Aug. 15, 1927.

Mr. Victor H. Hanson, care Birmingham News, Birmingham Ala.

My Dear Victor: Since I retired from the Senate last March, having spent most of the Winter getting over an attack of pneumonia I have kept pretty close to the Woodlawn farm, living an outdoor life in part and amusing myself by writing a book, sometimes a joy in production and sometimes almost a nightmare, but nevertheless it interests me.

The News comes as a daily caller to Woodlawn, and I have kept up with home affairs through your columns. I cannot tell you how much I have gloried in the splendid battle you have been making for right and justice in your campaign against the criminal class in the Ku Klux Klan.

Of course, they must go down in the end before the power of public condemnation, but the splendid battle that you are making will always stand in the forefront of Alabama history when theend is finally accomplished. I realize that the conviction of the lawbreakers in Blount County was a great victory in itself and went a long way on the road to win the fight, but utnil the Legislature of Alabama proclaims to the world that honest men in our State have no occasion to cover their faces in public we cannot count the victory won.

I am out of politics for good and all. I have no desire to become a candidate for any office in the world; nevertheless, the very fine compliment that you paid me in the editorial column in The News of Friday, Aug. 12, is much appreciated as coming from an old-time friend.

I shall probably not be back to Alabama until cool weather in the Fall sets in. Then I hope to see something of you.

With best wishes, I am,
Sincerely yours,
O. W. UNDERWOOD.

Heflin Attacks Underwood.

In the same issue of The News (Aug. 18) there is a report of a speech which Senator J. Thomas Heflin, senior Senator from Alabama, made a few days ago at Abbeville, Alaska, in which he declared himself ashamed of Senator Underwood, the reason conveyed being the friendship Senator Underwood entertains for Governor Smith of New York.

"Oscar ain't what he used to be," said Mr. Heflin, as reported in The News. "He has changed, and he now stands with the Catholic crowd who want to abolish the two-thirds rule in Democratic National Conventions. That rule has saved the South on previous occasions. I look to see the Al Smith crowd in Alabama try to ring Oscard Underwood into the fight for the Alabama delegation. I was ashamed when I saw Underwood join the Al Smith crowd at the National Convention in New York."

The News, in a leading editorial commented on the anti-Catholic tirades of Senator Heflin in Alabama. The paper declares that in attacking the Catholics, Heflin, in fact, defames the memory of Jefferson Davis, Robert E. Lee, as well as Alabamans of note who preceded him in the Senate of the United States.

"If," says The News editorial, "the Roman Catholic Church, for example, is the grave peril to America that Mr. Heflin says it is, if the Roman Hierarchy is the deadly foe of American institutions that he boasts he has 'discovered' it to be, why is it that none of Alabama's wise and patriotic United States Senators has been vouchsafed the important revelation that Mr. Heflin says has been received by him?

"Why is it that Jefferson Davis did not discover these dangers to his country? Why was Mr. Davis so indifferent to Alabama's and America's liberties that he appointed in his Cabinet not only Judah Philip Benjamin, the Jew, but Stephen Mallory, the Roman Catholic?

"What has this defamer of Roman Catholics done for Alabama, for the South, for America that is comparable to the patriotic work done by Rofan Catholics like Raphael Semmes, James Ryder Randall, Father Ryan, General Beauregard or Stephen J. Mallory, to say nothing of Roger B. Taney and Edward Douglas White, two Roman Catholics whose images now stand guard at the altar of justice in the nation's court of last resort?

"It is the memory of men like Lee and Davis and King and Yancey and Morgan and Pattus that Mr. Heflin defames. It is a desperate, as well as a dangerous speech, that Mr. Heflin addresses to Alabama's people. It is an unwise, a most unpatriotic speech. Intended to divert this State's attention from criminal gangsters who 'meet under the hood and part under the robe,' it will serve rather to harden Alabama's determination to root out the mask and [illegible]

AGED MOTHER AND DAUGHTER BEATEN NEAR SPRINGFIELD

Birmingham Flogging Made Public by Attorney General McCall; Victim Attacked Twice, Was Hiding

NO MOTIVE ASSIGNED FOR EITHER WHIPPING

Woman and Girl in St. Clair County Dragged From Bed, Knocked Unconscious

To Alabama's long list of thirty-odd floggings this year was added the names of three victims yesterday, two of them a mother and her fourteen-year-old daughter in St. Clair county and the third a Jefferson county man who was unmercifully beaten last June and his home burned by the mob. The floggers in both instances were unmasked.

The women, Mrs. Belle Huggins, 56, a widow and her child, Miss Mattie Huggins were the victims in St. Clair county on April 7. The whippings came to light with adjournment of the St. Clair grand jury yesterday after it had refused to return indictments.

The Jefferson man, John Lowell Bolton, 55, was severely whipped on two occasions, according to Attorney General Charlie C. McCall. The first occurred in January and the second in June. After the second whipping Bolton's home was burned.

WAS FLOGGED TWICE

BIRMINGHAM, Ala., Sept. 9.—(AP)—The severe flogging on two occasions of John Lowell Bolton, 55, and the burning of his residence by a band of armed and unmasked men was revealed here tonight by Attorney General Charlie C. McCall. The attorney general is in Birmingham aiding in a grand jury investigation of mob whippings in Jefferson county.

Bolton was "beaten unmercifully with a large strap" and kicked while he lay blindfolded on the ground, Mr. McCall told newspaper men. The attorney general, after an investigation covering months, declared himself armed with evidence which he believes will indict a large number of the floggers.

Ten minutes after Bolton had been removed from his home for the second flogging, Mr. McCall said, his house was set afire and burned to the ground. Bolton has been in hiding since the second flogging, which occurred last June.

No motive has been assigned for the whippings. The first occurred in January, the attorney general said. One night a group of men came to Bolton's home a short distance from here, where he lived alone. The body of the mob stood out of view while two of the men gained entrance by a ruse. Bolton was seized and taken to a spot on a lonely road and flogged with a whip resembling a "cat-o'nine-tails."

On a night in June a group of men again came to Bolton's residence and requested water for an ill girl. As Bolton turned to get the water he was struck on the head by a member of the mob and he was again seized, blindfolded, taken into the woods and unmercifully beaten. None of the men were masked but all carried pistols on both occasions, according to Mr. McCall.

NEW YORK EVENING TELEGRAM & MAIL

KLAN-RIDDEN STATE WINKS AT FLOGGING

AUG 13 1927

Membership in Order Meant Virtual Immunity in Alabama.

BLOODSHED PROTECTED

Power, However, Was Not Used to Cover Plundering of Treasury.

Special Dispatch to The New York Telegram

BIRMINGHAM, Ala., Aug. 13.—While the supremacy of the Ku Klux Klan in Alabama was not as corrupt as it was in other States where the Klan gained control, it nevertheless was as absolute.

Strangely enough this power was not used to cover plundering of the public treasury, but rather to protect murder and bloodshed and to create a super-government within the constitutional machinery set up by law.

Membership in the Klan came to mean virtual immunity from prosecution for any save capital crimes, and even then in the unlikely event of a conviction, leniency to follow quickly.

Floggings Become Epidemic.

Committed in the name of the Ku Klux Klan by men wearing the regalia of that order and speaking with authority of its dread name, an epidemic of raids and floggings and intimidations swept the State.

Fantastic things were done by these robed figures in the name of law enforcement. Two instances will suffice to show the scope of the Klan's activities. It happens that both occurred in Birmingham, but things fully as strange took place in other cities of the State.

There are in this city three Chinese restaurants. In these restaurants are booths where couples retire to practice what is generally termed "necking" by the vulgar. In these booths they drank more or less openly from bottles that contained the fiery concoction known as "moonshine" in Alabama.

Raided by Klansmen.

One night men in Klan regalia invaded these Chinese restaurants, dragged diners from booths, subjected them to search and to inquiry and arrested one man who had liquor on his person.

The leader of this band demanded that diners blow their breaths in his face that he might detect the odor of liquor.

The Chinese proprietors were ordered to tear out their booths, and within two weeks the Klan-elected City Commision had adopted an ordinance forcing the removal of the booths.

A little more serious was the case of William Yerby. Yerby killed a 20-year-old boy at a barbecue stand operated by Yerby. He was indicted after some delay and tried. When the Scripps-Howard newspaper of Birmingham, the Post, ventured to show the man had a police record its editor, managing editor and a reporter were haled into court and sent to jail for contempt.

Yerby was a guest at the county jail while awaiting trial. The Sheriff—a national officer of the Ku Klux Klan—permitted Yerby to visit his home almost at pleasure. It was the exception rather than the rule for him to spend a night at the jail.

Freed in Two Years.

Yerby was eventually tried and convicted and sentenced to ten years in the penitentiary. Less than two years afterward he was free on a permanent parole issued by a Klan-elected Governor.

Still another case, which also occurred near Birmingham, which has been the Klan stronghold in the State:—

Arthur Hitt, a middle-aged negro farmer, was visited one night last month by a band of men wearing the Klan regalia. He was taken from his home near here, flogged, ordered to sell his place and leave.

A week later it was discovered that the land had been sold to a Cyclops of a Birmingham Klavern for a fraction of its value. The Cyclops owned adjoining land.

A perfunctory investigation was made by the county attorney, but no steps have been taken against the Cyclops.

Nothing was overlooked by these klansmen. A Bessemer youth, parked in an automobile with a girl, was dragged from the car and flogged by a party of klansmen because he had been "petting."

In Montgomery the son of the Mayor was flogged because his father refused to permit the Klan to parade.

It is a common sight in Birmingham to see police officers directing traffic while in Ku Klux regalia.

Mostly in its depredations the Klan has cowed its victims, but occasionally they have been of sterner stuff.

A negro farmer at Centre, Ala., when the Klan made an attempt to abduct him, fired a load of buckshot into the hooded figures and they fled. The following day it was found that a prominent merchant was dead—riddled with buckshot.

The negro disappeared, frightened out of the county.

His experience was similar to that of Emory Cobb, a Blount County negro. He fired into the Klan when they attempted to flog him.

His wife was killed before the white-robed figures fled. Cobb is in Cleveland and when the Attorney General recently attempted to get him to return as a witness against the men whom he wounded, he refused.

ALABAMA GIRL FLOGGED.

Kept Outrage Secret for a Month Fearing Death Threat.

FLORENCE, Ala., Aug. 21 (AP).—Miss Marie Bishop, pretty 17-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Bishop, last night told S. E. Stafford, Muscle Shoals detective, that eight masked men kidnapped her from her home the night of July 6, took her to a woods, and whipped her with a leather strap.

The girl has kept the whipping secret under threats of death, she told Mr. Stafford. Her father and mother also were threatened with violence if they reported the affair.

Chief Stafford has turned the case over to Lauderdale County authorities and warrants are expected to be issued Monday.

The girl told officers that she recognized three of the men, who wore hoods bearing the letter "K."

FLOGGING IN ALABAMA

Editor The Advertiser:

It may be that I can not get up to you without getting flogged, but I am going to try it. If they get after me I'll not "sack" my head to get it back on them. I will try to go up to them and take it fair. But, Mr Editor, if the K. K. K. gets on to me I will expect you to help me out. The "Night Hawks" do not seem to like your paper because you are trying to protect the lives of our good citizens who do not partake in such dastardly crimes. I do not mean to say that Klansmen are the ones that have done all the floggings, but if they have not they should thank you for the editorials you have published. If they are not guilty then let them clear themselves. Some one is guilty and Alabama is being spoken of as being uncivilized. Shall we stand back and hear those words and let the floggings exist? Somebody's health is ruined by flogging, something uncalled for. The Klansmen have a good platform, but do they live up to it? I have known of men in this organization who did not come up to the standard of being good citizens.

"Keep shooting it to 'em," Mr. Editor. Nobody is going to harm you. The motto of your paper shows that you are not afraid to be on the front line. F. H. Bell

Midland City, Ala.

Ku Klux Klan - 1927

Alabama

DR. McNEILL JOINS THOSE WHO WOULD CRAMP OUR STYLE

The Rev. Dr. H. H. McNeill, of Prattville, writes a characteristically abusive letter about The Advertiser to another Montgomery newspaper. We will give the quick-witted reader one guess as to which paper it is, adding this cue: There is but one daily newspaper in Montgomery that makes a practice of printing letters attacking its contemporary, and that newspaper is not The Advertiser, though The Advertiser receives many letters assailing its local daily contemporaries. It is to that newspaper that Dr. McNeill goes with his acrimonious harangue against The Advertiser and other members of the "Hanson press," even though the doctor must have known that The Advertiser would have accorded him space for his letter in its own columns had he but shown us the courtesy of requesting it.

This exemplary Christian minister's charitable and benevolent philippic is as follows:

> It is sometimes a serious and fatal thing to face one's record, and he who sallies forth to attack another should first consider the proverb of the glass house, and have "the giftie gie us to see our sel as ithers see us."
>
> The Hanson papers have recently had the bitter experience of being brought vis-a-vis with their record. In their newborn zeal (incubated for the occasion) for law enforcement they assaulted the religious and secular press, and preachers, who did not rally to their leadership in vigorous condemnation of a few sporadic crimes. For two weeks they turned their guns of every caliber and range on the press and preachers—not neglecting poisonous gas, and much of it. Not till they opened up their nauseous gas battery did they draw the fire of the religious and secular press. What happened then? This press laid down a terrifying barrage of facts in the rear and on the flank of the Hanson papers—facts drawn from the Hades of their own record—and routed them horse, foot and dragoon. They attempted to cover their retreat with a noisy gasconade. They remind one of the doty gander which disputed the right of an old war horse to graze on the meadow. With broken leg he hobbled back calling: "I killed him, Kate! I killed him." The horse had heard the thunder of many battles and was not disturbed by the cackling boast of the gander. Hoc fabula docet.
>
> Why did not the press and preachers follow the leadership of the Hanson papers? For lack of confidence. They are suspicious of the motive and political integrity of these papers, and the record of these papers justifies the suspicion. These papers for years have given, at least tacitly, aid and comfort to lawlessness, organized lawlessness. They have been and are, staunch and loyal friends of those liquor organizations which industriously seek to destroy, make of none effect, a fundamental law of the nation. They have no denunciation for those armed rebels against the government, federal and state, who do not hesitate to shoot down the officers of the government. Are these papers, then, astounded when men, loyal and true to the laws of their country, decline their leadership? They have been, and are now, in sympathy with the greatest curse that ever blighted humanity. They are left to explain such sympathy in their own way and to themselves. To the benevolent there can be no worthy explanation.
>
> The record again. The preachers, godly men and women and the "country press" have not forgotten, can never forget, those perilous times when they were fighting for law enforcement; fighting the sooty crowd that troop under Acheron's flag, that stabbed in the back, and burnt houses under the cover of night.
>
> The preachers and "country press," oblivious of their own safety, were in the midst of the fight beating back the enemy of mankind. Where were these papers then? Did they come to our aid? Did they ever offer to lead us in the fray? No, they fired upon us from the rear. They poured epithets like grape and canister upon our flank. In bugle notes they called to the enemy to give the bayonet. Through their megaphone they shouted: "Down with the hypocrites! Whip the political parsons back into their pulpits."
>
> To the enemy they shouted: "On, brave men, ON! Strike for your personal liberty to make and sell liquor! Strike these hypocrites and fanatics to the ground."
>
> Such was the attitude of these papers then, and they appear again in a similar role. Can the leopard change his spots?
>
> The preachers have ever been loyal to the law, vigorously denouncing sin, crime and lawlessness of every kind—sometimes at their peril. Had they not been loyal, these, their traducers, ever on the quivive to hurl a javelin into their heart, would not now be in peaceable possession of their lives and property.
>
> We will pray for our enemies, hoping that God will work one more miracle.

It is the concluding paragraph of this letter which dismays us. This promise on the part of Dr. McNeill to pray for us leaves us uneasy, for, knowing the doctor as we do we are not sure whether he will ask for Divine mercy or Divine wrath for The Advertiser, or anybody else with whom he disagrees. Thus what might appear to be a promise may in fact be a threat. Dr. McNeill's nature is such that he appears to be among those friends of The Advertiser who pray for it all night and slander it all day. In this way has Dr. McNeill lost more sleep than is good for him and because of it has become nervous, jumpy, hysterical, quick to scream and hard to pacify. Every pathologist is familiar with the type.

If we could but induce Dr. McNeill to vilify masked torturers of women, sick old men and fuzzy-lipped youths in Alabama as savagely as he vilifies The Advertiser and associated newspapers, we should rejoice indecorously at the victory for law and order that we had achieved. For Dr. McNeill can beat us emitting lava, expressing indignation, throwing literary carbolic acid in the eyes of a foe, and otherwise raising the devil. The reverend gentleman hates well and we need him with his special talents by our side at this critical hour in Alabama's history.

> Where, where was Sir Roderick, then?
> One blast upon his bugle horn
> Were worth a thousand men.

We need the doctor at our side to prompt us in thinking of new and offensive epithets to apply to men who conceal their identities and gang helpless, friendless misdemeanants, and others who are merely the victims of malicious gossip or low avarice. There have been so many outrages of the kind brought to light recently which we have felt duty-bound properly to characterize, that we have about run out of invective. We are all but winded. We need such aid as a gentleman of Dr. McNeill's resourcefulness, grim resolution and unquestioned courage could give—if only he would gain his consent to fight with us.

We need not assure Dr. McNeill that we know he abhors mob law, particularly mob law administered by craven wretches who insure self-protection by hiding their faces as they seize and torture their victims. We know that his sense of chivalry and honor is outraged as he contemplates the long series of midnight floggings which lately have been exposed by the press in the regular course of discharging its duties to the public. These outrages, incidentally, were not "incubated for the occasion," neither do they consist of a few "sporadic crimes," as Dr. McNeill says. Briefly, what happened is this: The flogging in Blount county was reported in the news columns of The Birmingham News Friday, July 1. Sunday morning following The Advertiser quoted the news story and carried a vigorous editorial on the subject. Monday, July 4, The Advertiser followed with a second editorial. The Birmingham News and Age-Herald also commented vigorously on this and other affairs of the kind and all three papers called on the authorities to take action. Numerous other newspapers in Alabama did likewise. The officers did take action. Meantime publicity of the Blount county crime inspired numerous other victims of hooded mobs to talk, and stories of floggings began to pour in from all sections of the Satte. We were amazed at the number of them, but they were authentic instances, not one of which has been denied. There was no process of "incubation"; nor were they sporadic in character.

As we say, we are sure Dr. McNeill's heart is right on this question. He is a brave man and an honorable man, and no brave and honorable man can be indifferent to the flogging by masked men of at least four women in Alabama, three old men (both semi-invalids) and various others. (Some three or four floggings, however, were not done by masked people, we hasten to say, in justice to the Klan and its friends.)

But what we find fault with Dr. McNeill about is that he should write a vicious attack on The Advertiser and associated newspapers for the war they have made on masked anarchists and slinking beasts, and not write an equally vicious attack on the anarchists and beasts, and the sinister influences in Alabama that condone and protect these monsters. We know the doctor is against buzzard courts that send defenseless women and helples sold men to the whipping post, there to writhe and groan piteously in the stillness of the night; but we must reproach him for not saying so while the purpose was hot, or rather while publicly discussing the question. We submit that Dr. McNeill, who troubled himself to write freely about the part The Advertiser has played in this fight for elemental decency under 20th century civilization, missed a perfect opportunity to throw the weight of his moral influence on the side of the only criminal system in Alabama that enjoys political

protection and has the benefit of sympathy from a considerable section of the public. We think that his letter would have been strengthened had he devoted a paragraph of commendation to agents of the State who sent two floggers to the penitentiary, and five to jail, and who today are seeking indictments of masked floggers in a half dozen other counties in Alabama. Even a word of commendation of The Advertiser for the effort it has made to arouse public opinion against the rule of mask and lash would have been apposite —but of course, no Montgomery newspaper other than The Advertiser would have printed a friendly reference to any public service rendered by this newspaper.

It is not too late for Dr. McNeill to hit the sawdust trail. It is not too late for him to call upon the legislature to outlaw the mask, and thus strike at the heart of this evil. It is not too late for him to arraign leaders of public opinion who either for want of courage or because they are in sympathy with secret rule do not attack the system that protects crime and makes the practice of cruelty safe in Alabama. It is not too late for him to regret the mood that produced his unfortunate letter and to shame those editors, preachers and politicians in Alabama who have lately contented themselves with making war on The Advertiser because of its war on barbarism. Help us scourge the temple, Dr. McNeill, and re-enthrone the God of Honor in Alabama!

If you will do that you may go back to your favorite outdoor sport, namely, abusing The Advertiser, and we shall not complain. We are used to it by now.

But until you can gain your consent to do that, we shall be obliged to say to you: If you insist on praying for The Advertiser, we shall insist on being represented by counsel at the ceremony!

WAY DOWN SOUTH WHERE MEN FLOG WOMEN AND STILL LIVE

Alabama should look to its laurels—Georgia is leading it again. At about the time Klansmen were whipping one 50-year-old woman and one 35-year-old woman, together with the latter's 15-year-old boy and one or two other persons at Toccoa, Ga., the Klan of Habersham county was by no means idle. It is just now coming to light, through the columns of The Atlanta Constitution, that one white woman and her three daughters, together with three men were flogged by Klansmen. The mother is 50 years old, her daughters' ages are 20, 18 and 16. Another young woman in the same community would have been flogged one night had she not been away from home. The Klan called for her, according to her father. Altogether seven persons were flogged by the Klan in Habersham.

The grand jury is expected to indict a considerable number of Southern gents. in connection with these tortures this week. The victims have at last signified their willingness to testify.

It has but lately dawned on us that the whipping of women is really a new and well established outdoor sport in the chivalrous South. At first we thought that the whipping of one or two women was of no great significance in so far as a change in our moral and ethical standards was concerned; but now it must be clear to every discerning observer that we are living in a day of new and definite moral standards down this way.

We have always had men in the South who were capable of ganging and whipping another man; but there was a time when the flogging of a woman would have been the equivalent of a death sentence to the men guilty of it. There was a time in the South when men died for lesser offnses against womanhood.

Today a Southern mob would as soon torture a woman as a man. All that is necessary in many of our communities is for idle gossip to connect the name of a woman with an indiscretion. That will immediately start the watch dogs of virtue and probity to prowling by night—under masks of course. Instead of rebuking the gossips, as we once did, we now pounce unquestioningly upon the object of the gossip aforesaid. We do not try her; we do not give her an opportunity to face her accusers; we do not show her any courtesy or consideration. We bend her over a barrel, or a log or tie her to a tree and beat hell out of her—we neo-Southern gents!

But nobody dies for it. Do the men in the communities where these tortures occur who do not participate in the floggings, come to the rescue of helpless womanhood? Do they hold an indignation meting and declare that henceforth, womanhood, however frail, must be regarded as inviolable, and that men who beat the bodies of women will do so at their peril? They do not. They either quail in their boots before the fiery cross, or they secretly or openly condone the atrocities. If the floggers believed that possible danger to themselves attended their loathsome practices, they would not take the risk. They realize that the only danger to them is the law, and until lately they have seen that even the law was no great menace.

Yes, we have a new point of view, a new moral code—and the South is the poorer for the change. The explanation? There is no mystery about it. The new practice of flogging defenseless women followed the establishment of the Invisible Empire within the republic as the rival of that republic in the field of government. It is the Ku Klux Klan which introduced the innovation of masked gang atrocities on Southern womanhood, as well as greatly extended the much older practice of whipping men. It is the Ku Klux Klan which also introduced the innovation of masked gang attacks on boys, notwithstanding that the better element of men in the Klan have no more sympathy with floggings than the better element of citizens who are not Klansmen. But their revulsion against flogging does not give them the will and the power to control that large element in the Klan that does favor flogging and intimidation—provided there are enough masks on hand to make such outrages safe.

If it were unlawful to wear the mask in public places and that law were enforced we should have no more floggings by Klansmen or their imitators. But there are so many politicians, editors and clergymen who believe that the mask is sacrosanct that it is difficult to strike at the root of the evil.

And so it is that Southern men continue to beat hell out of defenseless Southern womanhood whenever they hear a little gossip which gives them the excuse.

The courts have convicted some floggers in Georgia and some in Alabama in spite of the handicap of the mask and the potency of secret grips and significant wiggling of the ears; but the courts labor under great difficulties because the lawmakers will not strike at the condition under which atrocities are easy to commit in comparative safety.

ALABAMA JURY FAILS TO PUNISH 'NIGHT-RIDERS'

Klansman Who Expected To Be Indicted Still Holds Hitt's Farm

BIRMINGHAM, ALA., AUG. 31.—The move to punish the guilty persons responsible for the recent brutalities inflicted upon colored people in rural sections of this state failed miserably Tuesday when the Randolph county grand jury which were supposed to have investigated the recent flogging outrages, declared that it had been unable to obtain sufficient evidence to indict those who are already under surveillance.

Nothing more has transpired in the Hitt case in Jefferson county since W. J. Worthington, suspected of having taken part in the flogging of Arthur Hitt, issued lthe statement that he expected to be indicted. In connection with this case, it will be remembered that Worthington is said to have admitted the purchase of Hitt's farm and at the time remarked that he paid a "fair price" for it. Hitt, on the other hand, told authorities his land was valued at $12,000 and he was forced to sell it, after being flogged, for the paltry sum of $800. The last move made by authorities was their promise to return the farm to him as soon as the person who purchased it was apprehended. However, Worthington is said to be in possession of the farm. When the band of masked men dragged Hitt from his home late in July, they dubbed him as being "too rich", and informed him of their mission.

He was flogged, forced to sign papers relieveing himself of the possession of the farm and then turned loose in a dense woods from which he, at almost the point of exhaustion, escaped and informed the county authorities, reports aver.

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The report of the jury said:

In obedience to your honor's charge the grand jury has diligently, deeply and earnestly investigated the alleged kidnapping and flogging of citizens of this county. The investigation reveals most intolerable conditions. Evidence developed discolsed that seventeen persons have been whipped.

"In each case the victims of these criminal activities have been whipped in the late hours of the night by organized mobs of men wearing white robes and white masks over their faces, who traveled in automobiles with tag covered. Most of them were lashed on the naked skin with instrument of torture that in some cases left wounds, scars, and bruises that the victims will apparently carry all thrcugh life.

Some of these victims, the evidence discloses, have suffered in silence, without so much as consulting a physician because of fear resulting from threats made against them by the mob if they talked.

"It is the unanimous conclusion of the grand jury that the kidnapping and lashin gof these victims has been done by lawless members of an organization known and called Knights of the Ku Klux Klan, who have bound themselves to secrecy with reference thereto."

The report recommended on "unanimous opinion of the grand jury" that the Alabama legislature pass laws forbidding masking on public highways and concealment of automobil license tags.

Prosecutor Davis issued a statement following the report of the jury saying that he had sufficient evidence to act against high klan officials in the Hitt case, but owing to the grand jury decision he is helpless. Worthington is believed to be the klan official involved in the cases. Two other cases where a boy died after being flogged and a prominent physician being driven from town and forced to sell his home, have also been shelved, it was learned.

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Ku Klux Klan - 1927

Alabama

LAWYER FOR KLAN LEADER ARRESTED IN HITT OUTRAGE

L. C. Albright, Who Acted in Transfer of Land For Worthington, Jailed in Lieu of $25,000 Bail

TRUE BILLS RETURNED IN SIX TO EIGHT CASES

Klansman Jailed on Perjury Allegation; Grand Jury Hotly Condemns Tampering

BIRMINGHAM, ALA., Sept 15.—Special to The Advertiser.—Fifteen to eighteen indictments in six to eight flogging cases in Jefferson county were returned by the grand jury, which reported to Judge McCoy at 5:50 p. m. Thursday. Advertiser

Shortly afterward, Louis C. Albright, attorney, was arrested and placed in the county jail in lieu of $25,000 bail on a charge of kidnaping in connection with the Arthur Hitt flogging case, in which the negro sold his property at what was said to be a low price shortly after he was whipped.

Albright was said by police to be the personal attorney of W. J. Worthington, Ku Klux Klan leader, who is shown by court records to have been the purchaser of the property Hitt sold. 9-16-27

Julius Lumpkin, paper hanger, is facing two charges of bribery in connection with an attempt to influence the testimony of a grand jury witness, and today L. D. Elwell, a witness, was sentenced by Judge McCoy to five days in jail for contempt of court for evading questions put by the grand jury.

The grand jury returned 328 true bills.

The grand jury condemned in particular a number of attempts to intimidate witnesses which, the report said, had proved greatly detrimental to their probe.

A record for Jefferson county, 32 indictments, were returned. A total of 820 witnesses were examined.

The grand jury issued a strong admonition for every citizen to show his cooperation in stamping out the evil of floggings in Jefferson county.

Citizens have been taken from their homes and whipped and their homes burned, the grand jury found.

The floggers were denounced as "marauders and self-contituted dictators."

The report reads in part:

"We have made as thorough investigation of the many floggings that have occurred in Jefferson for the past three months as it was possible for us to make working under the difficulties and handicaps which we had such as fear of individuals who have been the subject of many of these floggings to uncover the full details, and the attempt of many persons to intimidate and coerce witnesses who were summoned before this body.

Serious Condition

"We find a serious condition confronting the people of Jefferson county, and one that calls for sober, serious and determined action on the part of our citizenship. Every good citizen in the county should appoint himself a committee of one to join with every other law-abiding citizen in seeing that these marauders and self-constituted dictators are brought to justice. Under present conditions no home or individual is immune from these self-righteous thugs who have come to consider the duly constituted authorities of state and county as inferior to their invisible power which in their arrogance, they assume to themselves. Advertiser

"We find that the citizens of this county are being taken from their homes and whipped, and their houses burned by these lawless mobs on some small pretense of a law violation. The courts may do all in their power the officers may put forth their best efforts to puta stop to this reign of inlawfulness in our county, but until the citizenship of the county are fully awakened to the situation now confronting them and their families and take a firm stand on the side of law and order, but little can be accomplished in the way of blotting out this stain upon the great name of the state and county. 9-16-27

Rally Around Banner of Decency

"Therefore, we call upon all men everywhere to rally around the banner of decency and order, and when the call comes to help in these matters not to wait to be conscripted but to fly to the colors of righteousness and good government and help bring these organized outlaws to justice. We, as your grand jury, feel that we have made an honest and untiring effort to get at the bottom of all this lawlessness known as flogging, and that we have to some extent been successful, but if it stops here it will all amount to but little and we realize that in the last analysis it has to rest with the petit juries who come afer us, and it is to be hoped they will arise to the heights of good citizenship and do their duty regardless of fear, friend or foe, and convict. Montgomery Ala. Journal 9-16-27

"Another matter the grand jury wishes to mention is the matter of newspaper publicity. We recognize that the newspapers serve a valuable purpose and can aid greatly in the formulation of public opinion, either for or against certain situations existing in localities. We recognize that the reporters for the newspapers are employed to seek and obtain news. However, it is our belief that too much publicity of the names and parties appearing before the grand jury, and surmise of what they may know about matters which might be presented to the grand jury, can be detrimental rather than helpful to real results. The proceedings of a grand jury are secret. According to law and in order that there may be full observance of the law in the spirit as well as the letter thereof, the newspapers can render a greater service in our judgment, by refraining from too much discussion and surmise as to possible testimony, parties appearing, and action that may be taken.

Difficulty in Veiled Crimes.

"In this period of rapid means of transportation of information through the press and otherwise, the great difficulty with which a grand jury is confronted in its efforts to ferret out veiled crimes, is the easy means of interested parties to frame falsehoods and delay solution of the criminal problems through the easy touch of such interested parties with each other. Cases should not be "tried" through the press columns prior to or during the progress of the grand jury's deliberations and too much publication of evidence presented hour by hour before the petit juries placed guilty parties on full notice of what has transpired, with the result that if they be guilty, yet uncaught, witnesses not yet called, they are in full possession of what the facts are in the matter, hour by hour, and thus the uncaught are less likely to be caught, and the rule under which witnesses are placed is, in a measure, often times, rendered of no value or meaningless.

"What is said is not intended as a reflection on the press, but is said in the hope that there may be a better understanding of the situation and a fuller cooperation along these lines, for, if this is done, it is our opinion that such will lead to a quicker solution of crimes and speedier ap- so help me, God.'

"The secret or private fraternal, social or religious affiliations of a man and the obligations there entered into, should not be misunderstood and should not be such as to defeat the purpose of the oath administered in a court of justice. Men should not be permitted to hold such a misunderprehension of criminals.

Should Be Scrutinized

"Interviews obtained or sought should be given only by those directing or supervising the work, and when obtained by the press should in our opinion, be carefully scrutinized, having in mind the possible good or bad effect of publication of the interview insofar as the general public is concerned and insofar as witnesses and suspected criminals or unsolved crimes or unfinished investigations might be vitally affected.

"Investigators and peace officers should not be too ready to discuss the information in their possession until real results have been obtained.

"Another matter which the grand jury feels should be touched upon is the apparent efforts of some parties to obstruct justice. Men should place higher value on the oath they take before the grand jurys and tribunals. There can be no oath more sacred than the oath to tell the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth, standing. The influencers or directors of men in their private, secret, fraternal, social or religious affiliations should feel an equal responsibility for results where, by reason of the direction and influence, such men are led to believe, properly or erroneously, that their secret oaths or obligations, fraternal, social, religious or otherwise, bind them to compound felonies, perjure themselves or give shadowy or evasive answers when under any oath administered before a grand jury or judicial tribunal.

Owes Duty to State

"A man owes a certain duty to his state, and true citizenship and bona fide allegiance to the state cannot be said to exist where, by reason of the apparent obligations assumed by them in their private lives, they feel thereby oath-bound to frustrate efforts of public officials to ferret out a crime which might involve some other party likewise bound.

"Where a man binds himself secretly by secret oath, in such a way that he feels or knows he cannot come into a grand jury room or a court of justice and tell the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, without violating his secret oath, he is no longer a good citizen. He is a menace rather than a value to his state, and the instigator of that state of mind thwarts the ends of justice and becomes a dire evil.

Thanks McCall, Haynes, Davis

"We wish to express our appreciation of the excellent work and assistance given to us in our deliberations by Attorney General Charlie C. McCall, and his assistant, John Haynes. These gentlemen have been untiring in their efforts to assist this body in solving the numerous cases of flogging committed in the county. We also wish to commend in the highest terms the energy and zeal displayed by Jim Davis, our solicitor. We observed with considerable gratification the harmonious cooperation existing between the two gentlemen and have no hesitancy in ascribing whatever degree of success we have attained in solving some of these crimes to their determination to bring before this body every scrap of evidence attainable. It was clearly apparent to us from the evidence brought to us that Mr. McCall and Mr. Davis had followed to the end every possible source of information relating to the flogging cases before this body was called together and we cannot over-estimate the value of their assistance.

"We wish to thank all the county employes with whom we came into official contact for the uniform courtesy extended to us during our deliberations.

"Respectfully submitted,
(Signed) "Wade Wood, foreman."

Judge Commends Jurors.

Circuit Judge McCoy delivered the following message to the grand jurors:

"Gentlemen of the grand jury, in behalf of the court I wish to express my sincere thanks for your careful, painstaking and diligent inquiry into the affairs of this county. Your report is excellent; there is not a word in it that does not meet the hearty approval of this court.

"I am gratified indeed that attorney general of the state of Alabama and his assistant, Mr. Hayes, that Mr. Davis, the solicitor, and his assistant are conducting a most vigorous investigation into these floggings, so shameful, so disgraceful, so reeking with hatred and anarchy that our county and our state are held up to ridicule as places of ignorance and petty prejudices."

"As I said in my charge to you when you first convened, no civilized government has ever, or will exist when part of its citizenship set themselves up as administrators of punishmen and courts are ignored. Any man who is a student or thinks deeply, knows this. Vigorous investigation, vigorous prosecution by officials such as the attorney general and solicitors and an awakening to a true realization of the value of good citizenship on the part of petit juries means a better day for Jefferson county, a better day for the state of Alabama."

Jailed For Contempt.

Floggers in Alabama are in for a hard time. Their days are numbered, Judge McCoy, of the Jefferson county circuit court, declared late Thursday in sentencing L. D. Elwell to jail for

Judge McCoy interrogated Elwell about a trip he made to the fifth floor of the First National Bank building Thursday afternoon. Elwell said he went there looking for an insurance agent who had been recommended to him. Further questions failed to elicit any name except "Ted," Elwell saying he did not know his last name, but he was a life insurance agent. He said he did not know what insurance company "Ted" represented. In response to a question asked by Judge McCoy Elwell said he did not remember the name of the person who recommended "Ted" to him.

Elwell is a pattern maker employed at the foundry of the Hardie-Tynes Manufacturing company it was said.

In answer to a question he admitted membership in the Tarrant City Klan but said he did not know whether he was an officer.

KU KLUX BLAMED BY RANDOLPH JURY FOR 17 FLOGGINGS

Unable to Gain Evidence To Indict Gang Members; Wants Mask Banned From

Highways

IMPEACHMENT SOUGHT FOR PROBATE JUDGE MOORE

Probe of Nine Cases Brings Eight Others to Light, Solicitor Says

WEDOWEE, ALA., August 22.—Concluding unanimously that seventeen brutal assaults in their county had been committed lawless members of the Ku Klux Klan, the grand jury of Randolph county, in a report given Monday, deplored the conditions in Randolph county as intolerable but were unable to return an indictment because of insufficient evidence against the masked and hooded perpetrators of the atrocities.

A recommendation that Edgar M. Moore, judge of probate of Randolph county be impeached and removed from office for wilful neglect of duty, incompetency, and "intemperance in the use of intoxicating liquors or narcotics," was also contained in the report of the grand jury.

Evidence before them convinced the grand jury that the whippings had been administered late at night by organized mobs of men who wore white robes and white masks over their faces and who traveled in automobiles with the license tags covered.

Most of the victims were lashed on the naked flesh the grand jury found with instruments of torture which brought blood and left scars which they will carry to their graves.

Ninety-nine per cent of the citizens of Randolph county are bitterly opposed to mob law in any manner or form, the grand jury stated.

The grand jury asked unanimously that the legislature pass a law prohibiting the wearing of masks in public. Such a law, in their belief as stated in their report, would have prevented the kidnappings in the first place, or would have to hide their gathering of evidence against the guilty parties.

Report Follows.

The report was made to Judge J. A. Hines associate judge of the fifth judicial circuit. The reports follows:

"The grand jury of the circuit court of Randolph county, Ala., for the August term of circuit court, of that county submits the following as its final report:

"The grand jury has been in session seven days and returned 45 indictments and investigated 227 witnesses. The grand jury has inspected the home for the poor of the county, the county jail and the records and bonds of all county officers. They found the home for the poor in excellent condition, well kept and the inmates satisfied. The county jail is in good sanitary condition and the prisoners properly cared for. The records of the various county officers are neatly and apparently accurately kept and in our opinion the bonds of all officials are ample and in keeping with the law.

"Alleged misconduct of Edgar M. Moore, judge of probate and ex-officio judge of the county court of Randolph county having been brought to the notice of the grand jury, diligent investigation and inquiries in and concerning same has been made and a special report has heretofore been made to the court by this grand jury, recommending that he ought to be impeached and removed from office for wilful neglect of the duty, incompetency and intemperance in the use of intoxicating liquors or narcotics.

Intolerable Condition

"In obedience to your honor's charge the grand jury has diligently, deeply and earnestly investigated the alleged kidnaping and flogging of citizens of the county. The investigation revealed the most intolerable condition. Evidence developed has disclosed that seventeen persons have been whipped in the late hours of the night, by organized mobs of men wearing white robes and white masks over their faces who traveled in automobiles, with license tags covered. Most of them were lashed on the naked skin with instruments of torture that the victims will apparently carry through life. Some of these victims evidence discloses have suffered in silence without so much as consulting a physician because of fear, resulting from threats made against them by the mob if they talked.

"It is the unanimous conclusion of the members of the grand jury that the kidnappings and lashing of these victims has been done by lawless members of an organization commonly known and called the Knights of the Ku Klux Klan, who have bound themselves to secrecy, with references thereto.

"Our investigation discloses that many well meaning and good men have in the past been members of this order and some did affiliate with it having no knowledge of these mob activities.

"Each and every member of the grand jury are opposed to mob law in any manner or form and it is the judgment of the grand jury that 99 per cent of the people of the county are as bitterly opposed to it. The grand jury regrets exceedingly that after making most diligent inquiry, they have been unable to obtain evidence sufficient to justify indictments in these cases.

Urge Anti-Mask Law.

"It is the unanimous opinion of this grand jury that the legislature of the state of Alabama should pass a law making it unlawful for any individual or set of individuals to travel the highways of this state with their faces masked, especially in the night time, or to travel with automobile license tags concealed, and the grand jury urges the representatives of this county in the legislature to introduce and urge the passage of such a measure. Had we had such a law it is the opinion of the grand jury that in the first place these kidnapings and lashing would not have happened, and if so we feel that we would have been able to obtain evidence sufficient to indict the guilty parties.

"In conclusion we desire to thank your honor for the able and comprehensive charge given the grand jury; also Honorable C. H. Vann, solicitor of the fifth circuit, and his deputy, Honorable E. B. Parker for their able and efficient assistance to us in our deliberation. We also wish to commend Sheriff G. B. Payne and his deputies for the splendid work they are doing in breaking up crime, and for their efficient service to us, and to thank T. C. Wilson our bailiff for his courteous service to us in our deliberations."

Signed. L. J. GLASS, foreman.

Huntsvill Layman Joins With The Advertiser

My dear Sir: In your reply to an article from The Montgomery Advertiser, you state very clearly your position on the subject of "floggings," but did not express yourself as being for or against the use of the mask. I do not think it too much to say that if all intelligent men and women, impartially investigate the matter that they will realize that the wearing of the mask is dangerous to society and all orderly government. With organized mobs of hooded criminals taking advantage of the mask to commit all manner of crime against the peace and dignity of our state, and in the most cowardly manner visiting gross indignity and cruel punishment upon their fellowman, upon no other authority than their own venal whims caprice or ipse dixit, I repeat that such wanton disregard of all law, honor or decency is evidence so overwhelming as to make further comment on the evils of the mask unnecessary. But astounding as it may appear those hooded mobs proclaim from the housetops, so to speak, that they are following the precepts and example of our Savior, while on earth. It would be interesting to have these self-appointed, self-assertive followers of the meek and lowly Nazarene to refer us to any passage of Scripture if such they can find, which gives an account of our Savior having ever robed himself with a mask and went forth to preach salvation with a lash in one hand and a fiery emblem of vengeance, intimidation and fanaticism in the other? I thought he went about meekly, preaching love, kindness, peace on earth and good will to men. But my good brother, pray do not think I am dictatorial, or wish to shape the policy of your paper, but being a member of the Methodist church, I would naturally feel an interest in the policy of the paper, but candor impels me to say that I do not think that you and many of our ministers or indeed many of us have denounced as we should this disgraceful hood and lash rule in Alabama, but, so far from denouncing their nefarious ways, I am creditably informed that some of our preachers actually belong to the Klan, and condone or minimize their evil doings, but I will digress here just a moment, to say that I noticed a letter in The Birmingham News from the Rev. Boyd T. Cantrell, in which he impugns the motives of all of us who do not agree with the preachers on the subject under discussion and he says in substance that we all "one by one" are disloyal to parts of our constitution and to the Volstead Act. Now then, under these circumstances, I hope I may be pardoned when I add that I am no politician, only a plain layman out on my plantation, pursuing the even tenor of my way, that I use no intoxicating beverages whatever, never missed an opportunity in my life to vote for prohibition in every contest, state and national, when that issue was involved, and that I am in favor of the rigid enforcement of all prohibition and other laws, both state and national. I will further add that I have plenty of neighbors as upright and moral as can be found, who share with me the opinions I entertain on this subject. I therefore hope our good brother will not convict us summarily on his indictment without judge or jury. But again to the subject, pardon me for again referring to your reply to The Advertiser. You say you do not question the motives of the editor of The Advertiser in his war on the mask and the lash, but that dozens of your friends do not hesitate to say that he is trying to bolster up a "political issue," and you add that if this be so that it is "despicable." Now then, in that spirit of fairness that should characterize all discussions, I would ask if it be quite proper for these gentlemen to question the motives of the aforesaid editor, and for you to make publication of same in The Advocate. While at the same time you scrupulously avoid any reference whatever of the fact that it appears to be common knowledge that Col. Graves, whom you say bids fair to become one of the greatest governors that Alabama ever had, is a member of the Klan, and that it is alleged same was used to further his election. If these allegations with reference to Col. Graves is true, is not that also "despicable?"

I fear that a man who pledges allegiance to a hooded organization, a part of whose creed is to forbid a Jew or Catholic from joining the order, is not possessed of that broadness of vision that is so necessary to determine the just equities between races and creeds and therefore not typically qualified to become "One of the greatest governors that Alabama has ever had."

Now then, should not all good citizens unite with The Advertiser and all others who feel it their duty to join in an effort to abolish the use of the mask and the lash in this state, reserving the right, of course, to differ with The Advertiser and others on any subject which our consciences do not approve. I, like yourself, do not agree with The Advertiser on all subjects, but this shall not deter me from doing my duty as I see it.

I understand that our church in the neighboring state of Georgia, and its official organ, The Georgia Christian Advocate, are making an heroic fight in assisting its state in its efforts to abolish the use of the mask and lash. Who could enlist in a nobler cause than to assist in the suppression of such cowardly atrocities as occurred near Oneonta and throughout the state? These contemptible and cowardly acts might be expected among the low classes of Latin peoples of Southern Italy, where the ill-famed Maifin and Black Hand organizations flourish, and which in many respects it seems to me resemble the Klan organizations, but such acts and all such organizations are repulsive to every tradition and ideal of the Anglo-Saxon race.

I hope all of our religious papers may take the lead in suppressing these hooded mobs and not allow the secular papers to "steal their thunder," which in the very nature of things should be theirs.—J. L. Burgess Huntsville, Ala., in The Alabama Christian Advocate.

Ku Klux Klan - 1927

Alabama.

ALABAMA KLAN WANTS D. C. MAN

Washington.—James Blevins, who is held for the Alabama authorities at the First precinct station, appealed to the District Supreme court, Saturday for protection aganist what he says is the wrath of the Ku Klux Klan in his native State.

He sued out a writ of habeas corpus through Attorneys McLaurin and Richards and charged that his detention here is unlawful. Attached to the petition for the writ are three exhibits, two purporting to be letters from an Alabama attorney and the other purporting to be a threat of punishment over the initials "K. K. K."

It is not clear from the record just what charges are against Blevins in Alabama, although the alleged klan letter mentions an alleged indebtedness. Blevins says the Ku Klux Klan wants him back in order to injure him.

MERIDIAN, MISS. Star

JAN 24 1927

KLAN-THREATENED NEGRO SEEKS U. S. AID

WASHINGTON, Jan. 24.—James Belvins, negro, held here for Alabama authorities, has appealed to the District of Columbia Supreme Court for protection against what he terms the wrath of the Ku Klux Klan in that state.

He is suing for a writ of habeas corpus and attached to his petition is what he contends to be a threat of punishment over the initials, "K. K.K."

ALABAMA PUBLISHER FACES NEW WARRANT

Attorney General Accuses Thompson of Birmingham of Libel in Raising Klan Issue.

BIRMINGHAM, Ala., Feb. 10 (AP).—Balked in his first efforts to serve a warrant charging criminal libe against Frederick I. Thompson, publisher of The Birmingham Age-Herald and other Alabama newspapers Charles C. McCall, Attorney Genera of Alabama, today appeared before the Jefferson County Court of Misdemeanors and personally charged the publisher with libel.

A warrant made out earlier in the week in Montgomery and sent here for service was returned because of a technical error.

Service of the warrant awaits Mr. Thompson's return to Birmingham from Mobile. He has denied Mr. McCall's charges and declared willingness to accept service.

Today's warrant stated that charges that the Attorney General had "urged members of the Ku Klux Klan of Montgomery to defy the authorities of that city" had been "falsely printed and published" by Mr. Thompson.

The warrant further set out that this "libelous matter had a tendency to provoke a breach of the peace."

In addition to The Age-Herald, Mr. Thompson publishes The Montgomery Journal, The Mobile Register and The Mobile News-Item. He is a director of The Associated Press.

MACON, GA. News

JAN 24 1927

NEGRO ACCUSES KLAN

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He is suing for a writ of habeas corpus and attached to his petition is what he contends to be a threat of punishment over the initials "K. K.. K."

Charges pending against him in Alabama have not been public although the alleged klan letter mentions an "indebtedness."

MOBILE OFFICIALS TO RESIST PUBLIC PARADE OF KLAN

Mobile, Ala., February 24.—(AP)—The city commissioners of Mobile today announced that any effort on the part of the Ku Klux Klan to stage a parade in Mobile tomorrow night, as indicated in published advertisements, would meet with resistance by city authorities.

The commissioners pointed to an ordinance which prohibits street parades of maskers, other than members of carnival mystic societies, and stated that this ordinance would be enforced to the letter.

In the advertisement printed today the statement was made that "we will parade," with instructions to klansmen to be "at your klavern Friday night, February 25, for instructions."

Man Fears Going Back To Alabama

Classed by Klan as "One of the Meanest Men in Birmingham."

WASHINGTON, D. C., Feb. 3.—(By A. N. P.)—James Blevins told the Supreme Court of the District of Columbia, in a petition for a writ of habeas corpus to prevent being sent back to Birmingham, Ala., that the Ku Klux Klan is after him. Blevins was arrested on a telegram from Alabama and he claims that his detention here by police is illegal. Blevins was driven out of Alabama by the Ku Klux Klan, who gave him five days to pay his debts and straighten out his affairs and leave. The Klan classed Blevins "as one of the meanest Negroes in Birmingham."

Mobile Prohibits Masked Parade of Imperial Empire

MOBILE, ALA., Feb. 24.—(AP)—The city commissioners of Mobile today announced that any effort on the part of the Ku Klux Klan to stage a parade in Mobile tomorrow night, as indicted in published advertisements, would meet with resistance by city authorities.

The commission pointed to an ordinance which prohibits street parades of maskers, other than members of carnival mystic societies and stated that this ordinance would be enforced to the letter.

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Columbus, Ga. Enquirer-Sun

JAN 24 1927

KLAN-THREATENED NEGRO SEEKS U. S. AID

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He is suing for a writ of habeas corpus and attached to his petition is what he contends to be a threat of punishment over the initials, "K. K. K."

Charges pending against him in Alabama have not been made public although the alleged klan letter mentions an "indebtedness."

KLAN REVISING PLANS TO RULE ALABAMA JURIES

May Attempt No Parade at Inaugural Today.

Montgomery, Ala., Jan. 17.—[Special.]—Indications multiply that efforts of James Esdale, grand dragon of the Ku Klu Klan in Alabama, to secure control of the state's jury system are not meeting with success. Two events of last week have indicated that Alabama would not permit its jury commissions to be composed of klansmen.

1. The grand dragon in his January secret communication to klan members revises a previous item of his program and demands as jury commissioners "good citizens" and not "good and loyal klansmen," the words used in December.

2. Governor Elect Gibb Graves, who, under the law, will have authority to fill all vacancies for jury commissioner in the various counties has let it be known that he will seek only "most outstanding and most representative citizens."

Whether or not the klan should participate formally as an orgaization in the inauguration ceremonies tomorrow was a subject of two hours' debate at a meeting of the Montgomery klan last week. Attending the meeting were Governor Elect Graves and Attorney General Elect Charlie C. McCall.

Debate Over Parade Today.

The question was the outcome of the action of the Montgomery city commission in refusing permission for the klan to parade the streets wearing their regalia. The suggestion that the klansmen stage their demonstration on the grounds of the state capitol was made by Mr. McCall.

Col. Graves took no part in the debate, and members of the order succeeded in amending the McCall proposal so as to provide for a robed ceremony on the grounds of the capitol, provided it met the governor elect's approval.

It is understood the governor elect let it be known that he disapproved.

Mayor Gunter had sent word that if any effort were made to "fly in the face" of the commission's ruling he would deputize all the nonklansmen he knew to block any attempt to parade in masks.

Klan Issue Fading at Norfolk.

Norfolk, Va., Jan. 17.—[Special.]—Formation of a committee of forty representative citizens who will attempt to reorganize the Democratic party in Norfolk promises to put a new complexion on politics that may spread to other sections of Virginia. J. T. Deal, representative in congress from Norfolk; Albert L. Roper, former mayor, and J. Griff Dodson, formerly state senator, constitute a committee of three who will select the committee of 40.

The reorganization of the party is aimed particularly at the Ku Klux Klan, which, until it began to disintegrate several months ago, wielded considerable influence in politics here.

Senator John Craft Proud Of Being a Ku Kluxer

The conductor of this column has talked to one man who openly and without equivocation expresses his pride in his Ku Klux activities. This man is Senator John Craft of Mobile and the latter is proud of his Ku Klux activities.

Senator Craft belonged to the ancient brand of Ku Kluxers, the men who saved the South from being dominated in reconstruction days by forces which would have ruined the South.

"Yes, there were a few of us boys who were Ku Kluxers back in reconstruction days in Mobile," said Senator Craft. "I was a very young man then but we had to do something and we did the best we could and we accomplished a great deal with what we had. Every Caucasian was eligible for membership in that klan and a man who wanted to help his country was not barred by his religion. And when we got through with our duty, we disbanded."

When a mere stripling, Senator Craft was hailed before a congressional committee in Mobile for alleged Ku Klux activities but the Senator came through with flying colors by saying nothing and sawing wood on the witness stand.

JUDGE EXCORIATES K. K. K.

Norristown, Pa., March 30.—(By A. N. P.—A threatening letter has been received by Judge J. Ambler Williams of the Montgomery County Criminal Court due to his criticism of the Ku Klux Klan in the trial of Moses V. Rogers, a Klansman, confessed slayer of Policeman F. X. Roy, of Lower Merion township, during a Klan demonstration on July 3, 1924.

"I wish to be placed on record," said Judge Williams in imposing sentence on Rodgers, "that if ever there was a fit case for the State Board of Pardons, this is one. It was rather a cheap brand of patriotism for these men, calling themselves 100 per cent Americans, to intimidate and terrorize citizens of this commonwealth because of an accident of race, color, or religious belief."

The Klan's letter in answer:

"It would seem your sympathy is with him because he 'got' the wrong man. If he could only have killed a white-robed figure what rejoicing.

"You have voiced your sentiments very clearly in the matter. We had hoped you would be impartial. The settlement of this case has proven, beyond doubt, that if Klansmen had been killed, their assassins would have gone free, probably commended."

Now the Klan is menacing Clarence Darrow, one of America's most noble champions of human liberty. Darrow dared tell the truth to a few black people in Alabama and the Klan immediately went into session and with venom sought to do damage to this rugged man. This man Darrow had committed no legal offense, had violated no espionage law but had merely indulged in the freedom of speech before his fellow American citizens. There are those who will defend the Klan and swear by its unholy principles and there are those who will defend lynching, peonage and slaughter but they are not true Americans. Darrow represents the highest type of American manhood. The Klan and its supporters are in truth the exponents of the "invisible empire of the Devil." In that empire the ruling passions are carnage, pillage, fratricide and cowardice, in that empire the evil and wicked propensities of men froth out and destruction, vandalism and iconoclasm result. The Klan and the bourbon southerners are the most un-American

Darrow Routed by Hoodlums

Clarence Darrow, internationally known criminal lawyer of Chicago, champion of oppressed people, and advocate of free speech in America was given an example of southern chivalry early this week when he was forced to leave Alabama where he had spoken here, under protection of a squad of riflemen and special police. He was menaced by a mob and, although ill and in Alabama for his health, was compelled to leave hastily for Chattanooga, Tenn., where he will rest a few days before continuing his trip to his home in Chicago. Mr. Darrow's only crime was condemning lynchings and other inhuman practices for which Alabama is notorious. He spoke to two audiences—one composed of white people at the Lyric theater and one to members of our Race at a school. In both speeches he stressed the importance of mutual respect and co-operation, through tolerance, and less mob activity on the part of whites, and independence and backbone on the part of our people.

Immediately following the address to whites he was rushed from the theater back to the home of his host at Fairhope, where he has been recuperating from a severe illness for several months, and was prevailed upon to board a train at noon Tuesday for the North. He was informed that if he remained in the state even the militia would be unable to make his stay safe. He was denounced from pulpt and by the press and descrbed as a meddling trouble maker from Illnos.

C. DARROW FLEES MOB AT MOBILE

Eminent Lawyer Quits The Town When Officials Declare It Unsafe

MOBILE, ALA., Mar. 9.—Goaded to a frenzy because Clarence Darrow, eminent Chicago attorney and champion of human rights and individual liberty, dared repeat to a white audience a speech he had previously made in a colored school in which he had told plain, blunt facts to his audience, a mob of Mobile Klansmen threatened the Chicago lawyer with a coat of tar and feathers. Following advice of cooler-headed officials, Mr. Darrow left the city shortly after the demonstration, enroute for Chicago. He announced that he would stop over a few days in Chattanooga, Tenn., before returning home, however.

Started By K. K. K.

Ku Klux Klan circulars warning the Chicago free thinker to "stop stirring up trouble in Mobile County" were thrown about the streets of the city when Darrow appeared here Sunday to lecture on "Social Crimes."

Deputy sheriffs, police and federal agent guarded Darrow when he spoke before a crowd of nearly 1,000 in the Lyric Theatre. Murmurs of amazement rose to cries of indignation when the champion of evolution began to advocate what his audience understood as "social equality for the black man." Darrow repeated, in part, a speech he had made a short time before at the academy.

"Lynchings and discrimination against the Negro are a disgrace to the North and South alike," the Chicagoan is quoted as saying.

"In Chicago, St. Louis, even in Springfield, the home of Abraham Lincoln, Negroes are accorded the same unjust treatment, and the same horrible riots occur as here.

A demonstration followed the meeting and Darrow left by a rear exit.

At Klan meetings Monday night, speakers demanded "tar and feather Darrow," and only the counsel of wiser heads and an order from Grand Dragon James Esdale, at Birmingham, prevented mob violence. With racial sentiment on edge, mob vengeance was feared by county officials. Mobile is quivered with anger at what it considers unwarranted interference by an "outsider."

"Who Is Your Friend?"

In his speech at the school, Darrow is reporte das saying in part:

"I can't help you, you will have to help yourselves, but I advise an attitude of defiance towards the white man who calls himself your friend.' How has he manifested his friendship?"

"By hanging and burning you, by making you do his work, and use his back door, refusing to let you enter the best hotels and to use the best coach in the train, and making you sit in the rear of the street car.

"The only front place the white man has ever given you is in the battle line. There you can stop the bullets, but when you return home you can't use the sidewalks. You have to use the road. What can the colored man do to help himself?

DRAGON OF KLAN FILES TWO SUITS

Birmingham, Ala., March 8.—(AP)—Two civil suits asking damages of $100,000 each have been filed in circuit court here by James Esdale, grand dragon of the Ku Klux Klan of Alabama, against Frederick I. Thompson, publisher of the Birmingham Age-Herald; C. M. Stanley, associate editor, and H. [illegible] Yancey, city editor.

The actions, apart from a warrant sworn out several days ago charging the three men with criminal libel.

All three suits are the outgrowth of the publication by the Age-Herald of what is said to have been a report of a local Klan meeting, and quoting Esdale as having endorsed masked whippings.

The first action by Esdale involves a misdemeanor charge, while the civil suits seek to recover damages which the klan leader believes have resulted from publication of the news items.

Trial of the criminal action has been set for March 17 in the court of misdemeanors.

KLAN FAST LOSING OUT IN ALABAMA

MONTGOMERY, Ala., June 2.—(By A. N. P.)—The Klan influence seems to be waning in Alabama, one of its few remaining strongholds. W. A. Gunter, mayor of Montgomery for 12 years, was re-elected Tuesday after a bitter political fight. His opponent was supported by Gov. Bibb Graves and the klan. Resentment by Montgomery citizens at the governor's interference in municipal politics may have helped account for the result. But the anti-Klan forces hail it as evidence that Alabama is shaking off the grip of that organization.

Ku Klux Klan – 1927

Alabama.

THE FLOGGERS.

Alabama regulators who have been flogging victims selected for punishment for one reason or another are giving considerable concern to the law officers of the state. They are now investigating the case of a Negro who was flogged to make him sell a small farm at a loss and of a woman who was tied up and lashed because her neighbors thought she needed it. There is evidence to indicate that a large number of Alabama citizens reserve the right under their state laws to conduct their own punitive experiments as they see fit.

The rise of this idea is not confined to Alabama, although just now it is most noticeable there. It is the legitimate fruit of the prohibition spirit. There are exceptions in which it is merely savage thuggism, but aside from these it is the militant meanness of intolerance, proceeding by violence threats, and coercion to have its way for the satisfaction there is in domineering.

Few other things are so distinctly unpleasant in recent American development as this activity of bullies and gossips, for whom helplessness is no defense and to whom nonconformity is punishable sin.

The Nation's Press on Floggings in Alabama

ALABAMA LAW ENFORCEMENT

"There have been scores, if not hundreds of whippings in Alabama within the last five years," says The Montgomery Advertiser, "and we doubt if anybody has even been indicted." Why should anymody? Many of the floggings are attributed to the salutary moral forces of the Ku Klux Klan, the ruler of Alabama. Besides, the law doesn't bother about trifles; and the full rigor of justice is given to enforcing that cardinal statute, the State prohibitory law. Under the administration of Governor Bibb Graves, darling of the Klan, the sole essential purpose of State government in Alabama has been pursued vigorously, though the attorney general has done glorious work against slot machines. These devices of Satan have been pretty well shattered, and the State Law Enforcement Department has succeeded in making Alabama so dry that not a ten-year-old girl in the State can buy a drop of liquor."

Such was the regrettable language of our verjuiced Montgomery contemporary, inviting the Governor and his enforcers to bring the floggers to justice. The first gracious incident was the reproof given to a boy of 19, an orphan, who had made his way "almost from babyhood." He was standing in front of a church. Eighteen cars, "filled with grotesque figures," came along. He was thrown into a car, kicked in the face, taken out at a lonely spot, beaten soundly and miscellaneously by the morals-enforcers and left half conscious. In spite of the hideous fact that he admitted having "taken a drink" and had a bit of whisky in his possession, will it be believed that the people of his town and county boil with wrath against his admonishers? State enforcement officers are trying to hunt them down. A special grand jury has been called.

The second gracious incident was the taking of a woman out of her own home by a gang of masked men, said to have worn the sacred robes of the truest of "Americans." She was tied to a barrel and drubbed till the strong right hands of the admonishers grew weary. This case of discipline, coming so soon after the other, made a lot more of Alabamians hot. After a period of meditation, Governor Bibb Graves declares that "floggings in Alabama must cease." New laws are proposed, as usual. Isn't the root of the trouble to be found in the grotesque magnification of the prohibition law and the pursuit of violators of it as the chief, practically the only, criminals? Commenting on the stress laid upon the violation of the prohibition law in the Sunday-before-the-Fourth sermons of Birmingham preachers, The News says:

"Graver crimes now plentiful in the country were apparently unnoted. Men and boys done to death by prohibition enforcement officers who had 'fired first'—the blood of these victims failed, it is reported, to move any one of these distinguished clergymen to protest. Lynchings and burnings at the stake that have shamed the country received from these monitors on 'preservation of order' and 'obedience to law' not even the faintest allusion. Flogging of men, boys and even women by hooded and robed brigands, stalking the highways by day and by night—crimes that brand communities that tolerate them barbaric—upon this subject what word of protest was spoken on Fourth of July Eve in the year 1927 of 'the Christian Era' from any one of these Birmingham pulpits?"

This monomania, this everlasting harping on one law and one duty, is common. Why bother about floggers and lynchers and such small deer? No matter what you do if your 'eart is true to Volsteadism.—New York Times.

STATE FLOGGERS, INC.

In a double-leaded leading editorial a day or two ago, The Montgomery Advertiser makes a rebuttal motion against bands of floggers who now go about in many States whipping and otherwise attacking men and women by suggesting that the State organize its own bands of floggers to battle the private outlaws.

But even with such a law, The Advertiser wise in its day and generation, concedes that the State would still be hamstrung with the difficulty of convicting the accused neighborhood floggers, because, officers of the day are apparently only interested in convicting the owner of liquor.

At present, it is pointed out, there is no enthusiasm on the part of either the people or the officers in the program of bringing to justice hooded gangs who attack citizens—men and women—and beat them half to death or otherwise abuse them, and hence no effort to stamp out this sort of outlawry which endangers the very life of the commonwealth.

Mobs have flared here and there, it is recounted, but officers have received no encouragement from men above them in authority, nor from the sundry "moral" leagues unions and societies to concern themselves with anything except liquor, chicken fights boxing matches, playing cards or slot machines. Homes of law abiding citizens are daily entered and searched on suspicion of having liquor, but no home is invaded in search for evidence that might convict a man of murdering his neighbor!

If The Montgomery Advertiser has overstated the complaint in the above gist of its editorial let him that is without sin cast the first stone at its editor! All of which reminds us that it is the very condition as outlined above that accounted for a prominent American the other day predicting that the times in America are about ripe for a Mussolini of our own.—Columbia Record.

THE GANGS AHEAD IN ALABAMA

There is strong evidence that Governor Graves of Alabama means what he says when he announces that he will do everything within his power to punish floggers and prevent additional flogging in his state. But the difficulty is that no sooner is the machinery of the law set in motion to capture one gang of floggers than two new gangs break out in new parts of the state.

Alabama, this is; not Georgia. In Georgia the Stephens county flogging situation appears to be clearing up. The school teacher has been convicted on one charge and has four more to face. All his suspected brothers in flogging who have been arrested are waiting their turn. Prosecuting attorneys are revealing unusual vigor, the judge is calling for action, the grand jury is returning indictments and—this is real news—the petit juries show a disposition to convict. Long experience with the history of floggings in Georgia teaches that it is never wise to become optimistic, but there are indications of progress.

But Alabama is another story. Within the past ten days three separate gangs of floggers have been at work. Attention has already been called to the case of Jeff Callaway, 19-year-old orphan, whom 18 automobile loads of floggers waited on with the usual treatment. The youngster had a bottle of liquor in his pocket and the community had been aroused by a preacher against liquor drinking; aroused apparently, to such an extent that the only remedy was flogging. Jeff was the first in sight and he caught it. Now 15 warrants have been sworn out, a special term of court has been called, a senator is introducing a bill to make an assault by a person masked or hooded a felony instead of a misdemeanor, Governor Graves is issuing statements promising action, state officers are seeking evidence and the whole picture is one of greater activity in this direction than Alabama has known in many years. All of which would be an encouraging sign of determination to punish and prevent were it not for two additional facts. The first is that in the midst of this activity another flogging band in another part of the state yet upon a young married woman, meantime holding off her husband, and beat her with limbs of trees and "a strap like a fan belt from an automobile." The second is that immediately following this achievement, still a third flogging band, in yet another part of the state, seized a 17-year-old boy in an automobile and whipped him with a "lash." Gang No. 1 was reported as wearing garments similar to kluckers; Gang No. 2, ditto; Gang No. 3, ditto again.

Following the latest flogging by Gang No. 2, Governor Graves has again promised action. Gang No. 3's job came too quick for another promise yet but no doubt that will come.

It must be discouraging for state officers. Every time they increase their activity, the gangs do likewise; and thus far the gangs are clearly ahead. But it is fairly safe to venture the prophecy—and we are quite willing to do it—that one smashing effort against a flogging gang, with convictions and stiff sentences, will send the others to their lairs, heads down and tails between legs. Your hooded flogger is essentially a cowardly dog. Alabama can prove that again

REMOVE THE MASK AND GOWN

As an outgrowth of recent outrages in Alabama perpetrated by hooded and gowned mobs, there is a movement on foot to present to the legislature a bill to bring about the unmasking of the Ku Klux Klan in that State. Such a bill ought to be passed in every State where hooded and robed bands have been active.

The recent activities of hooded and robed bands in both Alabama and Georgia have emphasized anew the menace of the mask and gown. At Toccoa, Ga., a school principal, who is a Sunday school teacher, stands four more to face. All his suspected brothers-in-law, a white woman who was taken out and beaten unmercifully by a masked and gowned band. The conviction of the man Acree is encouraging to those everywhere who are opposed to American citizens or anybody else being permitted to go out on the highways and elsewhere disguised so that identity cannot be determined.

Just as long as hooded bands are permitted to go about at will, even though with no intention of permitting any disorder, there will be those who will take advantage of the fear of the law and they are ready to commit any crime that vengeance or prejudice or impulse dictates. Give them the immunity which they feel is assured by the mask and robe and the restraint of the fear of the law is removed. The only safe and sane course with respect to the benefit of the disguise. As soon as the Klan unmasks and disrobes it will be relieved of all the blame for such crimes as those recently perpetrated by hooded and robed bands in Georgia and Florida. Likewise such crimes as those will become far less frequent.—Charlotte Observer.

SENATOR ELLIS AND SENATOR WILLIAMS AT BREAKFAST

Senator Ellis (Shelby) who wants to have the mask and Senator Williams, who wants to outlaw the mask, will sit down to breakfast together this morning. Over coffee, cereal, cantaloupe, bacon and buckwheat cakes they will discuss the greatest single moral issue now confronting the body politic in Alabama.

When they have sat down and had their first cup of mellow, fragrant, pungent, stimulating cup of coffee, we trust that Fred Ridolphi will hand them this newspaper, and that the gentlemen to whom their fellows of the judiciary committee have given so much responsibility, will ponder over this story, which was written Tuesday by a reporter for The Birmingham News:

> Arthur Hitt is down and out.
> And that means a lot.
> He's a physical wreck—and has been since he was beaten nearly to death a few days before he deeded his little

farm near Palmer Station. I saw him Tuesday—him and his wife and his little tomato patch—all he has left in the world.

His hopes have fled. He has a far-away look in his eyes. He's nervous and plainly frightened out of his wits. He jabbers incoherently at times. He was once a sane and solid man.

He wouldn't say whether he had been threatened lately. He refused point blank to touch upon the question. But at mention of threats, he grew shaky all over and wanted to talk about something else.

Hitt is living in abject sqaulor—a condition in sharp contrast to that under which he reared his children and enjoyed 35 years of life on his own farm. He now has nothing—not even hope of anything good in the future. He sees nothing but a void ahead of him. His spirit was broken when his back and legs were cut and slashed with the cruel lash of whitecappers.

Hitt says he will tell all he knows to the authorities at the proper time.

The authorities are making preparations to protect him.

When they have read this story we trust they will steel themselves for a review of the pathetic tale of Emory Cobb, formerly of Oneonta, which The Advertiser printed Wednesday morning. Cobb, as all Alabama now knows, is a negro who once operated his 200-acre farm in Blount county, attended to his business and behaved himself, from all accounts. One night the Ku Klux Klan broke into his home for the purpose of flogging somebody—according to Cobb, his wife was the object of their search. Cobb, alarmed at the attack, seized his gun and fired at the hooded marauders, striking one of them in the hand. They sent a volley in return, and killed the mother of his eight children. Cobb, fearing for his life, fled the community and hid himself in Cleveland, Ohio, where he now is located. He didn't remain in Blount long enough to see his wife buried.

Masked gangs committed these dreadful crimes, gentlemen.

Masked gangs have committed numerous other dreadful crimes in Alabama.

Masked gangs will continue to commit dreadful crimes in Alabama until the manhood of this State, voicing itself through its chosen representatives in the legislature of Alabama, makes it unlawful for men to conceal their identities in public places.

We trust that the coffee is good, that the canteloupe is ripe and that the batter-cakes are done to a turn this morning, gentlemen—and we ask your pardon for obtruding our views at such an early hour we hear you will meet at 7 o'clock. But we face a dreadful situation in Alabama and we who love the State must speak early and late.

IMPERIAL JEFFERSON FLOGS A HELPLESS NEGRO

A masked gang fell upon a negro farmer in Jefferson county, beat him unmercifully and frightened him into selling his farm for $80. The terrorized man after hastily selling his possessions fled the community.

This is another unspeakable outrage, even more cowardly than the lashing of Jeff Calloway and "Mule" Murchison of Jonesboro, both of whom were whipped in Imperial Jefferson. It is more cowardly for a masked gang to beat and intimidate a negro than a white man for the obvious reason that his social and political position renders him more defenseless. It is perfectly outrageous that a negro or any other person should be bullied and frightened into sacrificing the fruits of a lifetime of toil in order to save his life or protect his body from further abuse. No doubt the beasts who attacked this negro will profit by his financial loss. At least there is ground for his unpleasant suspicion.

How long, O Lord, how long?

WANTED: A NEW WORD

The English language is rich in strongly descriptive terms, but it contains no word that appropriately expresses the heartlessness and brutality of those who engage in the pastime of covering their faces with hoods, forming themselves into night-riding bands and going abroad under the double cover of darkness and the mask to administer unmerciful floggings to their fellow men and women.

This new sport has grown tremendously in recent years, and especially in the last few months. Flogging has become so widespread that it is now practiced with more or less regularity in at least two States in this section of the country. Since this new menace to law and decency has achieved such prominence, the need has developed, we believe, for a new word in the language by which those who practice it may be called.

Frequently the rise of new conditions demands the coinage of new words. Thus when the enactment of the Volstead law was followed by widespread disregard of that statute, the word "scofflaw" was coined to apply to those who declined to observe it. Similarly, the term "spigot-bigot" was coined by the other side to apply to those who insisted on observance of the Volstead law.

Flogging conditions, we believe, now justify the coinage of a new word to apply to floggers, and particularly to that dominant variety, the hooded, night-riding flogger. What shall we call them? They have been termed brutes, demons, fiends, ruffians and the like, but plainly, none of these words quite meets the need. Each of these words may be applied properly to others than nocturnal floggers. What is needed is a similarly harsh word, denoting, among other things, heartlessness, cowardice and brutality, that will convey the idea immediately it is heard that the one to whom it is applied is a flogger.

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Some time ago the Pennsylvania Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, finding no term with exactly this meaning, sought to have such a word introduced into the language. The society promoted a contest for this purpose, specifying that the new word should be forceful, short and easily understood. More than 500 suggestions were made, and "pitilacker" was selected as the winning term. A good many expressive suggestions were put forward Among them were "bruton," "crueltor," "kroolon," "malbrute," "quadmucker," "swunk," "hellbum," and "anicus."

If a person who would abuse an animal with utter indifference to its suffering is a 'pitilacker," what is a man who would flog a human being with no regard for his or her agony and humiliation?

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Calloway charges he was beaten by a mob dressed in robes. Of the 18 cars filled with men participating in the whipping, about 10 carried Birmingham tags, it was stated.

Calloway was unable to explain the attack. He admitted having a small amount of whisky in his pocket, and stated he "had taken a little drink." He denied that he had ever sold whisky, however.

The boy stated he was standing in front of the church, which is about five miles from Oneonta, when the cars filled with grotesque figures filed up the road. He stood watching as a man in the front car leaned over and asked a bystander a question. Then a number of men leaped from the leading machines, rushed up and grabbed him.

He was thrown roughly into one of the cars, kicked in the face and told, with an oath, to "keep his mouth shut." At an isolated spot he was dragged out and beaten. Members of the mob used stics, straps and any available weapon in reach, it was stated. Afterward they left him lying, semi-conscious.

Recovering as the cars roared down the road, Calloway dragged himself to a farm house a half mile up the road, where he spent the night. He was then taken home. He lives 12 miles from Oneonta.

Calloway states he had received no warning letters prior to the whipping and no word of explaantion was given at the time of the attack. The boy is an orphan, who has made his own way almost from babyhood, and feeling against the floggers has become intense.

"We are going to stop these outrages by meeting force with force," one official declared here Friday.—Birmingham News, July 1.

Here is one of the most outrageous affairs of its kind ever reported in Alabama. We do not know what charges gossip may have laid at the door of Calloway. The probability is that he has committed no serious wrong. But it does not matter. What does matter is that human beasts feel free to fall upon a fellow man in Alabama, whisk him away, kick him, curse him and then beat him unmercifully.

Now that Attorney-General Charlie McCall has the slot-machine Menace pretty well in hand in Montgomery, and now that the men of the State Law Enforcement Department have succeeded in making Alabama so dry that many floggings

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the men of the State Law Enforcement occurred near Oneonta.
Department have succeeded in making Ala- The people of Blount county appear
bama so dry that not a 10-year-old girl in news dispatches to be seething with
feel free to fall upon a fellow man in Ala- the State can buy a drop of liquor, w

Ku Klux Klan - 1927

Alabama.

have been committed in Alabama with perfect impunity.

In any event, the outraged citizens of Blount county are entitled to and should receive the active support of the Attorney-General and the State Law Enforcement Department in any efforts they may make to run down and convict this cowardly gang of floggers.

Because of his passion for law enforcement, Governor Graves will no doubt lend his hearty approval to these agents of law and order in any enterprise they may show in working up a case against the men who made a combined assault upon a 19-year-old orphan.

Here is a beautiful and inviting opportunity to avenge the dignity of the State of Alabama and deliver a mighty stroke for human rights. Not only should the law enforcement agencies of the State move upon Blount county, but if the State's attorney should in the end require special legal assistance in prosecuting the cases, we doubt not that Senator J. Thomas Heflin and Senator Hugo Black, both lawyers, and both ardent champions of law enforcement as a principle of government, will gladly lend their assistance.

ANTI-MASK BILL FACING SENATORS IN TODAY'S SESSION

Vote of Six Men Who Were Absent Tuesday Expected To Decide Question; Bus Bill Before House

Action of the senate on a motion by Senator C. B. Teasley of Montgomery to reconsider the vote by which the Williams anti-flogging and anti-masking bill was defeated and the Ellis-Ware substitute legalizing masking was accepted, is expected to prove the most important issue to come up Friday, when the two houses convene at 10 a. m.

Interest in the Klan question has been at a high pitch since Tuesday, when the Williams measure was defeated 16 to 13. During the two days in which the legislature has been in temporary recess, strong efforts are said to have been made by high klan officials who have been at the capitol Wednesday and Thursday, to clinch the victory which was gained Tuesday afternoon.

Bert Thomas, great titan of the klan and a large number of klan cyclops and other officials have been in charge of this lobby work. It is said six senators were absent from the senate when the Williams measure was sidetracked. Most of them have returned. Senator Edgar of Choctaw reached Montgomery Wednesday afternoon, as did Senator Hines of Chambers. Senator Walker of Lee was on hand Thursday while Senator Jackson of Barbour, who did not vote on the question Tuesday was in Montgomery Thursday night. Senator Marvin Moore another absentee, was not at the capitol Thursday. Senator Smith of Limestone, who has been ill at his home for weeks, was not expected to return.

The gavel in the House will fall at 10 o'clock this morning. Special orders are expected to take up the major portion of the session before adjournment is taken about noon today until Tuesday, if the regular order is followed.

Among important measures which are expected to bring on discussion is included a move to take from the adverse calendar Senate bill No. 54 regulating the operation of bus lines in Alabama. This bill places the duty of regulation, inspection and fixing of fees on the public service department. The motion to take from the adverse calendar will be made by Representative Ware of Randolph, according to notice filed Tuesday. This move it is understood, is made because of the possibility that the same provisions contained in the general road code may be declared unconstitutional. The house bill, now in the senate, known as the "Alabama Highway Code" provides practically the same form of regulations as that carried in Senate bill No. 54.

The contention is made that the house bill carries two subjects in one act and is liable, therefore, to annullment by the Supreme court if a test case is made. If the house bill now pending in the Senate, is in fact, a "code." the contention is made that it will stand, but if the courts hold that it is only "An Act," it will fall. It is to guard against this uncertainty that the move is being made to cover the subject in a separate bill.

Under the terms of the Senate bill the regulation, inspection and general supervision of motor transportation lines is placed in the hands of the commission. The commission is given authority to grant "certificates of convenience and necessity" and license motor transportation companies complying with rules and regulations laid down by the act and rules of the commission.

The commission will also have authority to approve rates charged and in a general way, protect the interests of the public.

The additional compensation provided under the terms of the section of the "Highway Code" and also included in the senate bill must come out of funds derived from a tax upon the gross receipts of the bus lines instead of out of the general treasury.

This highway code, according to its title is an act to provide a general system of legislation pertaining to public roads, highways and bridges, including therein the establishment of a state highway department and a state highway commission, etc. The primary purpose of this highway code is to provide for the construction and maintenance of public roads highways and bridges in the State, including certain related matters, such as regulation of size, weight and equipment of motor vehicles used over such highways, and certain regulations as to the manner of use of such highways and bridges by members of the public traveling thereover which pertain to maintenance of the road injury to the road and to the safety of others having a right to use the road.

Provisions of the highway code which fall within the above general purpose of the act and within those related purposes to which reference has just been made are found in articles 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10 and 11, which constitute all such code except article 3.

Article 3 of the highway code is devoted to a matter which does not appear to fall naturally within the general purpose or those related purposes above refered to of such code.

Article 3 takes recognition of the fact that there are now and will be in the future those who operate motor vehicles over the public highways for hire as common carriers, and classifies and declares such operators subject to regulation as a public utility, provides how such operators shall be regulated, invests the regulation of such utility in a commission which has nothing whatever to do with the construction and maintenance of highways and bridges.

The question therefore arises as to whether the introduction of article 3 into the highway code may constitute the introduction of a subject matter of legislation which cannot reasonably be considered as germane or cognate to the primary purpose of the highway code, which in the opening sentence of the title and in the bill itself, is shown to be: "To provide a system of legislation pertaining to public roads, highways and bridges."

If the courts should take the view that said article 3 is not reasonably germane and cognate to the primary purpose of this highway code, then under section 45 of the constitution of Alabama, the entire law would probably be declared invalid, for the reason that both the title and the body of this act would have to be held to contain more than one subject, if the court should take the view just stated.

The question, therefore, is presented to the house, whether it should take the risk of having the entire highway code declared invalid on this account or whether it is not the wiser, better and safer course to take said senate bill No. 54 from the adverse calendar of the house and pass it in order to make effective that legislation to regulate such motor vehicles operating as common carriers, which the house has already approved by its adoption of the highway code.

This course will not in any way interfere with or delay the enactment of the highway code into law, because said house bill No. 391, which is the highway code, can be amended in the senate by striking therefrom said article 3, leaving all the rest of the highway code intact as passed by the house, and the highway code as thus amended by the senate could and would be promptly passed by the house.

HELPLESS WOMAN AND AGED CRIPPLE SEVERELY BEATEN

Victims Declare Bands Wearing Robes Similar to Ku Klux Klan Administered Whippings In Each Case

JEFFERSON GRAND JURY FINDS THREE INDICTMENTS

State Officers Ready To Appear In Blount County On Calloway Case

While three indictments charging flogging were returned by a Jefferson county grand jury today, and state officers made ready to appear before a Blount county jury to obtain indictments in the flogging of Jeff Calloway, it became known that Randolph county for the past six months has been overrun by hooded bands, and that seven persons are known to be victims.

Included in this new series of whippings which has just come to light, are a helpless woman with four children, and an aged cripple. In each of the seven outrages, beatings were administered by persons in robes similar to those of the Ku Klux Klan, and in each instance the object was to obtain a "confession."

The Randolph county victims are: Lon Royston, 60, of Roanoke, semi-invalid nightwatchman, inveigled from his home and given 50 lashes with a heavy strap to force a confession that he had beaten his wife.

Mrs. Luella Horn, 42, mother of four children, seized at her home by a band of masked and hooded men who accused her of improper relations with a man.

Fred Inman, farmer, flogged by a hooded gang on a charge that he refused to allow his wife to visit her sick mother.

A man named Gay, 45, living near Roanoke, and accused of immorality.

A man named Crosson, who was flogged in Chambers county on an unknown "charge" and who made no complaint to the solicitor's office.

Tom Garrett, negro mill hand of Roanoke, and two negro women, taken to the Roanoke baseball park, where the two women were whipped and the negro forced to disrobe and run around the diamond.

The whipping of Lon Royston, cripple, was classed by Assistant Solicitor Burns Parker as "the worst case revealed in the state," by publication. Royston was severely scalded in an explosion a few years ago and has been able to do only light work.

The story as told to Solicitor Clyde H. Vann and his assistant, Mr. Parker, is as follows:

Royston is employed by the Hanley Manufacturing company, near Roanoke, as night watchman, and operates a store which adjoins his home. A few weeks ago Royston was called from his home late one night by a man who was unmasked and asked that Royston sell him some gasoline.

"I haven't any gasoline.' 'Royston replied.

"Well open up your store then, and sell us some cigars," the stranger requested.

Royston opened the store.

At that moment several robed and hooded men entered and with leveled revolvers forced Royston to get into an automobile. Three other cars loaded with hooded figures brought up the rear.

Royston was taken to a thicket on the banks of a creek a short distance from his home. He was forced to kneel, while one man held his hands and another his feet.

"You have been beating your wife," said the leader. The leader held a large strap about four inches wide and nearly a half inch in thickness.

"I have never whipped or mistreated my wife," the aged man replied with trembling voice.

"Yes you have," cried the band in a chorus. "and we want a confession."

Given 50 Lashes.

The heavy strap was lifted. Down it came with a heavy thud, and the cripple cried out in anguish. Again and again with brutal force the strap descended while the hooded cowards giggled and demanded "confess, confess."

An to save his life, the cripple "confessed" after suffering fifty blows.

On the following day Royston summoned the solicitor and related the details of the crime. His back showed ugly blood clots under the skin which was almost one entire scar caused by the scalding he received. His thighs and hips were bloodshot.

"I confessed," he told the solicitor, "to keep them from killing me. I have never whipped my wife."

Mrs. Royston confirmed this statement of her husband's, the solicitor said.

It was reported that the identity of the man who called at Royston's home is known to authorities.

Solicitors Vann and Parker declared that nothing would be left undone to clear the good name of the county and bring the cowards to justice. In several of the cases the solicitor admitted that they held some strong evi-

dence while in others there was practically no clew.

Also To Arm Self.

A few days later when Royston had recovered sufficiently to return to work he requested of Solicitor Parker that he be permitted to arm himself.

"Buy two pistols," said Solicitor Parker, "and if any further move is made against you, shoot to kill."

The whipping of Mrs. Luella Horn who is separated from her husband occurred last February. A hooded gang of four or five men went to her home one night, and upon answering a knock at the door she was seized and placed in an automobile. Mrs. Horn's eight-year-old son witnessed the outrage. Her other three children were away on a visit.

In a clearing in a thicket about a mile from the home the leader accused her of having improper relations with a man. This the woman vigorously denied.

The woman was then forced to stretch herself prone upon the ground and the heavy lash was brought into play. Four licks with demands to "confess" were sufficient to wring from the helpless woman an "admission" of wrong-doing. She was then released and left to find her way home as best she could.

Lives Near Wedowee.

Mrs. Horn is still living at the home eight miles northeast of Wedowee.

She said that she did not recognize anyone in the gang.

The whipping of Fred Inman occurred about the same time. Inman is 30 years old and lives in the northern part of Randolph county near Roanoke.

He was inveigled from his home and in a similar manner forced at the point of revolvers to accompany about five men to a spot where 40 or 50 men clad in robes and hoods awaited the victim.

Inman was accused of not allowing his wife to visit her mother who was ill in a Dothan hospital. He denied that he had made such a refusal and after suffering a beating was released on the promise that she would visit her mother soon. Inman was less severely whipped than the other victims however.

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Refuses to "Confess"

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Gay said the men who called him from his home were strangers. Officials admitted they had but little evidence upon which to request an indictment.

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In such cases where it has been possible to obtain evidence, Solicitor Vann said, indictments will be sought when the Randolph grand jury convenes on August 16. Solicitor Vann made it clear that his office would do all within its power to bring the offenders to justice. He pointed out however, that such investigations are most difficult because the criminals hide their identity and terrorize their victims.

THE CHRISTIAN ADVOCATE AND THE ALABAMA BAPTST DISCUSS A NUMBER OF THINGS

I.

Call the roll:

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Mrs. Bertha Slay, 28-year-old farm wife of Lauderdale county, beaten by a gang of men and women.

Arthur Hitt, respected old negro man of Jefferson county, beaten by robed knights, and made to sell his $6,000 home and farm for $900 to a hundred per cent American.

Hugh McSweeney and Pearl Boggs, white, of Jefferson, beaten by robed knights.

Six—count them. All now old cases. The editors of all Alabama newspapers, daily and weekly, have had time to express their opinions of these attacks. The weeklies could have discussed most of these crimes seven days ago; they could have discussed all of them in their current numbers. Most of them did. Some of them were silent and still are.

II.

Naturally we expected such militant moral crusaders as The Alabama Christian Advocate and The Alabama Baptist to have opinions about these reversions to savagery in Alabama. They are the organs of the two leading church bodies of the State. They discuss a wide range of topics in their editorial columns. They do not confine their comment strictly to church affairs, but are interested in politics, sociology, morality, law and order—thus in his leading editorial in the current number entitled, "What the Editorial Is For," Editor L. L. Gwaltney of the Alabama Baptist, says: "The editorial assumes the right to study all subjects, to enter all fields, to comment on all truth, to combat error, to either agree or disagree with others, to speak its own mind."

Turning, then, to the editor's review of current events, we find an editorial deprecating lynching, an article on "The Pullman Company and the Golden Rule," one on the "Smiths, Browns and Joneses," one on "Preachers and Doctors," one on "The Evils of Gambling," another on Henry Ford's Apology to the Jews, one on "Flapper and Beefsteak,"—and another on how Roman Catholics in Louisiana are "persecuting" non-Catholics. "Catholics", we read in a headline, "Are at the Same Old Job." And elsewhere in the paper is a feature article by Dr. E. Y. Mullins, president of the Baptist World Alliance, who declares that Governor Al Smith is "the wettest of the wets" (when, in simple truth, Al is the dryest of the wets.)

Turning to the editorial page of The Christian Advocate to see what great cause has touched the heart of Editor M. E. Lazenby since last we read his journal—which was a week ago—we find, in addition to an obituary article, an editorial entitled, "Why the Wets Want the Presidency," another on "The Trend of Benevolence," another editorial on changing moral standings from which we quote the first sentence: "Every none-cross-eyed, straight-seeing person must admit that moral conditions in America have become pretty bad since the war." The conclusion of the editor here is that now "conditions are better, but there is still room for improvement." The last editorial is a thundering defense of the theory that there really was a "fall of man" in which the editor declares that "man did not fall upward"—but downward.

III.

But we look in vain through the columns of these two journals for a word of comment on the recent crimes done in the name of morality, in which the bodies of a half dozen Alabamians, including one woman, were put to torture.

No word of pity and compassion for these defenseless persons whose bodies were lacerated by hooded monsters.

No hint of regret that even 100 per cent Americans can be so cruel, so inhuman, so utterly cowardly.

No hint that mask-wearing in public places is a demonstrated menace in Alabama and that it should be outlawed.

No call—not even a faint whisper—to the Christian manhood of Alabama to rise in its might and strike down these beasts that stalk in the night and prey upon the helpless bodies of forlorn individuals.

The editors of the Alabama Baptist and The Alabama Christian Advocate seeming ly remain unmoved in the face of this uprising of our native Huns.

As much as the use of grog excites them they do not even deplore the Horrible Example to Youth set by the gang of prayingknights who drank poor Jeff Calloway's pint of liquor while they beat on his writhing body!

As much as they deplore the sin of covetousness they do not deprecate the violation by a Jefferson county gang of the Tenth Commandment when that gang flogged Arthur Hitt, a respectable negro, and compelled him to sacrifice his land.

IV.

But, maybe the editors of these journals will yet be shocked; for as this editorial is written the wires bring sensational news from Randolph county. Hooded gangs in

SEEK TO INDICT MASKERS FOR FLOGGING YOUTH

Oneonta, Ala., July 18.—(AP)—Three men and one woman, were sent before the special Blount county grand jury today by Attorney General Charles McCall, as a step in an effort to indict the floggers of Jeff Calloway, 18 year old Oneonta farm youth, who was beaten into unconsciousness June 26 by a band of masked men.

Those going before the jury were Calloway, Mrs. Sallie Mokes, John Wade of Oneonta, and Walter Creel of Jefferson county.

Mr. McCall said it was highly probable that the grand jury would receive all evidence in the case tomorrow.

In his charge to the grand jury, Judge Martin said that the whipping of Calloway constituted a felony and urged that the guilty parties be brought to justice.

Calloway was kidnaped and lashed into unconsciousness because he was said to have attended church services while intoxicated.

Many other counties are yet to be heard from. Before The Advocate and The Alabama Baptist go to press again we shall see that the whipping by robed knights and robbed of Lon Royston, aged 60, who is a helpless cripple, having been badly scalded a few years ago. They forced him to confess to wife-beating to obtain their mercy—but it appears that this is a false charge. Roysfloggings in Alabama. In the end the edi- on declares it is, and his wife corroborates tors of these sectarian organs will

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No word of pity and compassion for these defenseless persons whose bodies were lacerated by hooded monsters.

No hint of regret that even 100 per cent Americans can be so cruel, so inhuman, so utterly cowardly.

No hint that mask-wearing in public places is a demonstrated menace in Alabama and that it should be outlawed.

No call—not even a faint whisper—to the Christian manhood of Alabama to rise in its might and strike down these beasts that stalk in the night and prey upon the helpless bodies of forlorn individuals.

The editors of the Alabama Baptist and The Alabama Christian Advocate seemingly remain unmoved in the face of this uprising of our native Huns.

As much as the use of grog excites them they do not even deplore the Horrible Example to Youth set by the gang of prayin knights who drank poor Jeff Calloway's pint of liquor while they beat on his writhing body!

As much as they deplore the sin of covetousness they do not deprecate the violation by a Jefferson county gang of the Tenth Commandment when that gang flogged Arthur Hitt, a respectable negro, and compelled him to sacrifice his land.

IV.

But, maybe the editors of these journals will yet be shocked; for as this editorial is written the wires bring sensational news from Randolph county. Hooded gangs in the same dispatches reported to have flogged Tom Garrett, colored, and two colored women and flogged Garrett, colored, and two colored women were taken out and flogged by hooded gangs, and Fred Inman, white, was flogged by robed knights and robbed of $200. Many other counties are yet to be heard from. Before The Advocate and The Alabama Baptist go to press again we shall hear from numerous other counties in Alabama. In the end they believe it is the duty of the organs of their churches to speak, not only for the Lon Royston, aged 60, who is a helpless cripple, having been badly scalded a few years ago. They forced him to confess to wife-beating to obtain their mercy—but it appears that this is a false charge. Roysons declares it is, and his wife corroborates him. In the end the edisake of the majesty of the law, but in justice to the churches that support these organs will see that these sectarian organs of

SEEK TO INDICT MASKERS FOR FLOGGING YOUTH

Oneonta, Ala., July 18.—(AP)—Three men and one woman, were sent before the special Blount county grand jury today by Attorney General Charles McCall, as a step in an effort to indict the floggers of Jeff Calloway, 18 year old Oneonta farm youth, who was beaten into unconsciousness June 26 by a band of masked men.

Those going before the jury were Calloway, Mrs. Sallie Mokes, John Wade of Oneonta, and Walter Creel of Jefferson county.

Mr. McCall said it was highly probable that the grand jury would receive all evidence in the case tomorrow.

In his charge to the grand jury, Judge Martin said that the whipping of Calloway constituted a felony and urged that the guilty parties be brought to justice.

Calloway was kidnaped and lashed into unconsciousness because he was said to have attended church services while intoxicated.

Ku Klux Klan-1927

St. Joseph, Mich., Herald-Press
Saturday, July 16, 1927

ALABAMA RECORD IN FLOGGING

In quick succession from Alabama where Ku Klux Klanism thrives come reports of floggings by parties of masked men. After her husband and sister were tied in their beds Mrs. Bertha E. Slay of Florence was taken to the yard of her home, bound and whipped. Near Oneonta, in Blount county, Jess Calloway, a nineteen year-old lad, was kidnapped and whipped by men wearing hoods and robes and Eston Murchison of Bessemer was taken from an automobile in which he was riding with "two strange girls" and beaten. In all of these cases the regulators, or whatever they called themselves, seeming

ly professed to be the agents of a higher righteousness which takes no account of law and order.

The latest case, however, has an altogether different look. As reported to the Jefferson County authorities, Arthur Hitt, a Negro farmer, after refusing to sell his small piece of land, was taken from his home by a band of masked men, strapped to a tree and severely beaten. Three days later he parted with his land for much less than it was worth. Sheriff Hartsfield, who is investigating the matter, says that it is the "very worst of all the flogging cases" called to his attention.

Alabama has been Klan-ridden, too many of its politicians and officials being allied with or subservient to the Klan. Outrages of one sort or another may be expected to continue unless the law is promptly vindicated by placing the criminals in jail.

GOVERNOR REQUESTS SPECIAL SESSION OF CIRCUIT COURT

udge Steele Expected to Issue Call For Grand Jury Today; Presided in Other Whipping Trials

KLAN IN MONTGOMERY CONDEMNS OUTRAGE

Defendants Sought in Jefferson and Blount Counties; McAdory Directs Roundup

With warrants issued for the arrest of fifteen men in Blount and Jefferson counties early last night developments in the sensational flogging of Jeff Calloway moved fast in Montgomery.

The developments are:

1. Governor Graves requested that Judge O. A. Steele of Gadsden call a special term of the Blount circuit court and grand jury session to probe the flogging. Judge Steel has complied with the request.

2. Resolutions were adopted by the Montgomery Ku Klux Klan condemning the outrage and urging the governor and attorney general to do all within their power to bring the offenders to justice.

3. Senator Travis Williams, of Franklin county, chairman of the legislative judiciary committee, announced that he would introduce a bill in the senate Tuesday making the assault and battery of a person by one masked or hooded, a felonious offense instead of a misdemeanor.

4. Walter W. McAdory, chief of the state law enforcement department left Montgomery Friday afternoon for Birmingham and Gadsden to personally supervise the arrests and further collection of evidence.

5. Governor Graves announced that the prosecution would be directed by the attorney general with the circuit solicitors assisting.

The call for convening of the grand jury is expected to be issued Saturday.

Judge Steele, of Gadsden, is the same judge who was transferred to Jefferson county in the summer of 1923, to preside at the trials of a number of persons who were charged with having taken part in the whipping by a party of masked men, of Dr. J. D. Dowling who was then and is now, health officer for Jefferson county. Though all of the defendants were acquitted, Judge Steele, on the day following the trials, issued a statement in which he condemned in the most scathing terms, mob law and outrages such as the Jefferson county health officer had been the victim of.

Warrants Grand Jury Action

While nothing was made public regarding the results of the investigation by the state, ordered by Governor Graves last Monday, into the beating of young Calloway, it is presumed that the chief executive would not have requested the calling of a special grand jury session unless the information obtained through the state's inquiry was adequate to warrant grand jury action.

When he ordered that the investigation be made, the governor directed that this work be carried out by certain officers of the state law enforcement department who were designated by him. Several times during the present week it has been stated at the executive department at the capitol that good progress was being made by the investigators.

From the first announcement that he had ordered an investigation by the state officers, Governor Graves has emphatically declared he is determined to go to the bottom of the matter and that he would use every power at his command to bring those guilty of the outrage against the Blount county youth, to justice.

Thursday, a partial report was made to the governor on the progress of the investigation, by State Officer E. Potter Smith, who was placed in charge when the probe was first instituted. At that time, the governor had a long conference with Officer Smith. Afterward the chief executive stated that for obvious reasons the contents of the report would not be made public until he was "ready to act." Officer Smith was again in conference with the governor for some time Friday afternoon.

Klan Resolution

The resolution adopted friday by the Montgomery Klan follows:

"Whereas it has come to the attention of this Klavern of the Knights of the Ku Klux Klan that certain persons in Jefferson, Talladega and Blount counties have been subjected very recently to personal violence at the hands of unknown parties.

"And whereas the Knights of the Ku Klux Klan in their laws and regulations are fundamentally opposed to any individual or group of individuals, organization or order taking the law into their own hands and depriving people of their inalienable right to the orderly and unmolested administration of justice through regularly constituted legal channels, whether that deprivation be directly or indirectly by officer or private citizen.

"And whereas the personal violence done the parties in the counties mentioned is utterly abusive of that type of justice for which we as law abiding citizens stand

"Now therefore be it resolved that we, the members of Klavern No. 3 Realm of Alabama, Invisible Empire Knights of the Ku Klux Klan, do hereby respectfully request the governor of the state and the attorney general to use every proper effort to bring the offenders to justice and we do appeal to all local officials in said counties to render full cooperation to these officers to the end that those who would perpetrate such outrages against justice may be fully punished and impressed that this is a government of laws and not of men, and we do hereby offer the full and free cooperation of this order to all lawful officers in this endeavor."

WARRANTS ISSUED

BIRMINGHAM, ALA., July 8.—Special to The Advertiser.—Acting under command of Governor Graves, and shrouded in secrecy, Alabama's law enforcement agencies moved Friday afternoon and night in a determined effort to arrest the alleged floggers of Jeff Calloway, 19, Oneonta orphan, whipped Sunday night, June 26.

Warrants against approximately fifteen Blount and Jefferson county men, believed to have been members of the "flogging party," were known to have been issued Friday afternoon by Blount and Jefferson county authorities.

However, no one connected with the warrants would say definitely when they would be served. In the meantime, Walter McAdory, chief of the state enforcement bureau, left Montgomery for Gadsden and Governor Graves announced that the attorney general's office would handle the prosecution of the cases and requested judges of the sixteenth judicial circuit to call a special grand jury at Oneonta immediately.

It is understood that eight of the suspected men live in Birmingham or Tarrant City and that the others live in Blount county. What disposition would be made with the men when arrested or with what they would be charged could not be learned as officers connected with the case were instructed not to talk "about it."

Phones for Coleman

First inkling that arrests would come either Friday night or Saturday was gained Friday morning when Sheriff Hartsfield telephoned John Coleman, state officer in Oneonta, and asked him to come to Birmingham immediately.

When Coleman arrived in Birmingham, he and Sheriff Hartsfield immediately went into conference behind the closed doors of the sheriff's office What happened is not known. However, after the conference Coleman and L. H. Camp, state officers, left the courthouse and did not return until late Friday afternoon. It is supposed that they were gathering evidence.

In all probability all of the cases both those against Blount and Jefferson "raiders," will be tried in Oneonta by Judge Steele, of Gadsden Judge Steele tried the famous Dr Dowling case in Birmingham several years ago, and though all of the accused were acquttted, the judge immediately after the trial issued a statement condemning floggings.

And not since the Dowling case has Alabama been as stirred by any one thing as it has been by the Calloway flogging. Young Calloway, an orphan youth, was snatched from in front of the Antioch Methodist church, Sunday night, June 26, by a masked and hooded band of men, and carried into Jefferson county and whipped.

Thursday, John Wade, acknowledging acting leadership of the Oneonta Ku Klux Klan, told how the "party at the Antioch church started." He said it was under auspices of the klan and further stated that James Esdale, Birmingham attorney and alleged grand dragon of the Alabama klan, furnished the "preacher for the assembly."

However, Wade said the flogging was not premeditated and disclaimed knowledge of it. He says that the whipping "must have been done by members of the Ensley and Tarrant City delegations who were invited to the church services."

None of the alleged klansmen, with exception of Wade, could be reached for a statement.

Flogging, the New Problem

Since the early part of December, at least fifteen floggings in Georgia have found their way into the newspapers. It is not improbable that at least fifty more have been hidden from the spotlight the newspapers turn upon such occurrences. The latest outrage of the kind reported from Milledgeville, where a negro was taken from his home Monday night and beaten until the clothing on his body was beaten into the blood-raw flesh followed by the leather thongs.

In the light of our recent flogging record, it begins to appear that lynching has passed as a problem and that flogging has supplanted it. We have not had a lynching in the state since the Coffee county episode of almost of the year. It is to be hoped that Georgia will pass through at least one calendar year without mob action. The decline of lynching is due to an aroused public opinion. Lynching was a simple business to cure; all we had to do, in any of the years we had so much of it was to catch a few lynchers and send them to the penitentiary. The mob cowardice that fosters lynching parties is an actual cowardice that is terrorized with the appearance of official reprisal from the state. We may have a lynching now and then in the future, but it will never be safe again it will never be accepted again with a shrug of the shoulders and a gesture of helplessness. We know now that the grand jury that returns a no-bill in a lynching case is speaking its own indifference, or the inefficiency or the cowardice of the officers of the law. We pretended for a long time that we could not stop lynchings, knowing all the time that we could stop them when we wanted to.

There is some consolation in the fact that with the curtailment of lynchings, the outbreak of brutality has taken a milder form. If hoodlums now manifest their brutality, they at least spare the lives of their victims. The brutality is there, but the fear of punishment has driven those who possess it to milder forms of crime. Therein lies the ultimate hope. We have flogging now to deal with. We can stop it if we want to. Perhaps when that is stopped, some other form of brutality will crop up, but it may be, as in this case, milder. The march away from the primitive instincts is long.—Macon Telegraph.

THE WEEKLY PRESS ON THE FLOGGING

The Abbeville Herald, The Wiregrass Farmer of Headland, the Demopolis Times and The Florence Herald have appropriate editorials discussing the Blount county flogging affair, and the militant Coosa River News of Centre nearly had one. It had a paragraph in which it referred in passing to the floggers as "culprits."

However, we have looked in vain through some 20 or 25 other weeklies for editorial comment on the fiendish outbreak. Nary a word, and not more than 5 per cent of them, we estimate, even reported the affair in their news columns, although most weekly papers regularly publish some State news.

Publication of the story of this flogging, the subsequent action of the administration against the culprits, together with the passage by a unanimous vote by the legislature of a resolution denouncing the crime and commending the authorities for their promise to apprehend the guilty parties,

plus a mass meeting of citizens at Oneonta to express their indignation at the outrage, constitute the great news sensation of the week in Alabama. Yet it excited comment in only five of the weekly papers thus far received and read by The Advertiser, while a majority of them printed no news about it.

There would be little point in these observations if the Blount county affair were a single, isolated instance of mob violence against an individual. But as everybody knows this was but one of a long series of similar attacks. It was, however, the worst outrage reported in several months, and the story of the affair makes a tale high in dramatic quality the reading of which should excite pity for the victim and indignation at the people responsible for it. It is such a story as should excite one's concern for the good name of the State.

The esteemed Roanoke Leader, noted among weekly papers for the frequency with which moral disquisitions appear in its editorial columns, has a long article this week denouncing legalized boxing and condemning the legislature for its recent adoption of a boxing bill. And looking through the editor's numerous pungent paragraphs we find this blameless utterance:

> We do not see how any man or woman can afford to live in a community and not be in line with the best thought and best life of that community. Self respect if nothing more, should prompt one to labor for the highest welfare of the whole, to stand only for those things that are uplifting and that are of good report.

Down below this is another paragraph with which none will quarrel:

> Now is a good time to give special consideration to the claims which the Creator has upon us. Protracted services are being conducted at many of the churches at this season of the year. Make the most of these opportunities while you may.

We presume to suggest to the editor of The Roanoke Leader and his contemporaries that they have missed an opportunity in not grappling with the issue raised, not merely by the blood and groans of Jeff Calloway of Blount county, but by the blood and groans of all the uncounted Jeff Calloways in Alabama. We say "uncounted" with reason, for no living man knows how many midnight floggings have occurred in this State in the past half dozen years.

And midnight outrages by masked gangs will continue to happen in future as in the past if the press of this State, not to speak of the church, does not take the lead in crystallizing public opinion against that sort of thing.

BLOUNT KLAN HEAD BLAMES JEFFERSON BODY FOR FLOGGING

Says Orphan Youth Was Abducted by Tarrant City and Ensley Klansmen Over His Protest

WANTED BOY TURNED OVER TO SHERIFF OR PREACHER

Said Young Calloway Was Drunk; Partial Report is Made to Graves

BIRMINGHAM, ALA., July 7.—Special to The Advertiser.—Blame for the whipping of Jeff Calloway, 19-year-old Oneonta boy, who was carried to Jefferson county and unmercifully beaten by a band of masked men on the night of Sunday, June 26, was placed upon delegations of the klan from Ensley and Tarrant City by John Wade, Oneonta blacksmith, undertaker and acknowledged klansman, Thursday, in a statement to a correspondent for The Birmingham Age-Herald.

In a statement issued Thursday, following a conference with W. G. Raines, solicitor of the 16th judicial circuit, Wade stated that about 100 klansmen in full regalia assembled in the Antioch church on the night of the whipping, while they listened to several talks and sermons, one of which was on "Modern Youth."

Another development of today was a statement by the Rev. A. H. Walden, pastor of the Antioch Methodist church from which Young Calloway was abducted which officials said probably established the sole reason for the unmerciful flogging administered. The pastor stated that much drinking had been noted during meetings and that the Klan was instrumental in reducing disturbance. Several were arrested and convicted, he said, for the offense. The Klan meeting was held in the church by invitation, the pastor said.

Thursday, James Esdale, Birmingham attorney, alleged grand dragon of the Alabama Ku Klux Klan, and other alleged members of the order were seen in Montgomery. It is surmised that they were in conferences with the governor.

Esdale furnished the "preacher" for the Antioch Methodist church assembly, where young Calloway was kidnaped, carried into Jefferson county and whipped by the masked band Wade further said.

Wade Quizzed.

Wade, Oneonta blacksmith, undertaker and leader of the masked delegation that visited the church, made these statements after he had been quizzed by W. G. Rains, solicitor of the sixteenth judicial circuit. Rains said Wade made this same statement to him.

The "preacher" was H. F. Gray. He used as his text the twenty-fifth chapter of Matthew, the first verse of which follows: "Then shall the kingdom of Heaven be likened unto ten virgins, which took their lamps and went forth to meet the bridegroom. And five of them were wise and five were foolish." What Mr. Gray said in commenting upon Matthew's verse could not be recalled by Wade. The other speakers, two men who did not remove their masks, spoke upon "modern youth."

Wade's version of the affair was told unhesitatingly Thursday:

"We had been invited to the church by Mr. Walden, the pastor. We told him we would attend the service and present a program. I wrote to Mr. Esdale and asked him to furnish us a preacher for the occasion. He answered my letter and told me Mr. H. F. Gray would come to Oneonta Sunday. He did, and went with our party to the church," Wade said.

Says Youth Drunk.

"After the services, at which I read the program and which was attended by approximately 100 men in regalia, we filed out of the church and got into our automobiles.

"As I was preparing to leave the grounds a man I did not know came to my car and asked me if I was the exalted cyclops of the Oneonta klan. I told him I was not, but I was acting cyclops, since the cyclops was not in Oneonta.

"He told me they had a drunk boy and wanted to know what to do with him. I told him to turn him over to the preacher, or take him to the sheriff. The man said he would take him to the sheriff.

"This is the last I knew about the matter until the next morning when I heard that the boy had been whipped. The flogging must have been done by the Ensley or Tarrant City delegation as both were invited to the ceremonies and because I checked and issued the robes worn by Blount county men and know they were all in the hall at 10 p. m. The flogging was supposed to have happened at 10:40 p. m.

"Therefore I am reasonably certain that it was not Blount county men," Wade said, as he concluded his statement.

Esdale could not be reached over the telephone for a statement. Neither could Gray. Esdale was in Montgomery Thursday afternoon, but had checked out of his hotel.

Aside from Wade's statement, little, if anything new, happened in the case Thursday. W. G. Rains spent Thursday in Oneonta. After his probe, he said: "I am convinced that it will take a grand jury investigation to uncover evidence that can be successfully used."

"There is no law in Alabama against the mask and unless we can uncover evidence that will reveal identity of the men who actually applied the blows that cut and bruised Calloway's back we cannot expect to get convictions," Mr. Rains said, and added: "So you see why we cannot make any arrests at the present.

Probers Not in Oneonta

Where Governor Graves sent his "special" investigators Thursday could not be learned. However, they were not in Oneonta or Blount county and Mr. Rains expressed a desire late Thursday afternoon to see some of the state officers, but he could not locate them.

A letter to Birmingham newspapers from the Rev. A. H. Walden, pastor of the Antioch Methodist church, setting forth his views on the flogging, has been received. It reads:

"I have just read a piece in the Birmingham Age-Herald of July 6 in regard to an alleged flogging of Jeff Calloway, who was alleged to have been taken from the Antioch church in Blount county, Ala., on Sunday night, June 26. I wish to make a statement of some of the facts in connection with this matter as I know them to be.

"I am the pastor of the Antioch church and have been for more than 18 months. My family and I have resided in the parsonage located about 50 yards from the church building. On the first Sunday night that we undertook to hold services at this church there were several persons present who were drinking and drunk.

"The services were broken up on account of the misconduct of the parties drinking on this occasion. Some of the parties were arrested, pleaded guilty and paid fines. This condition prevailed at this church until some three months ago and has prevailed up to the present time to some extent. From time to time there have been empty fruit jars in which there had been whisky left at and around the church building. I have found about a dozen of such jars myself and have known of other neighbors finding others.

"There have been two or three visits of a body of robed persons whom I supposed to have been klansmen to our community within the last three or four months. Since they first visited our community there has not been so much drinking and disturbance at our public gatherings.

"The klansmen were invited and did come to our church and hold services on the night of June 26, 1927. I was present at the services. During the services I heard a noise which appeared to be someone knocking on the outside of the house, which disturbed the people in the house. In my judgment there were some 50 or 75 robed persons at this service. I did not detect or notice any misconduct on the part of any of the persons robed. There were two of the persons in robes, preaching on this occasion. In my judgment the visits of the klansmen to our community has assisted greatly in keeping down drinking and disturbances at our public gatherings."

REPORT IS FILED

Partial report on investigation by the state of the flogging by a mob of Jeff Calloway, Blount county orphan youth, was filed with Governor Bibb Graves, Thursday afternoon, by E. Potter Smith, state law enforcement officer and former chief of police of Montgomery, who was placed in charge of the inquiry when it was first instituted by order of the governor.

Stating, following receipt of the report, that good progress has been made, Governor Graves said Thursday afternoon that for obvious reasons he would not make public reports of the investigation until it has been completed and he is "ready to act." Action on the part of the chief executive, it is presumed will be the arrest on his order of the person or persons whom the investigation discloses is or are responsible for the outrage. The governor said the investigation is being vigorously pushed and will continue to be conducted with all speed to its conclusion. Indications are that the conclusion will be reached within the next few days.

Governor Graves was in conference for some time with State Officer Smith at the time Mr. Smith's report was filed. Later in the afternoon the governor conferred also, at considerable length in connection with the investigation, with Attorney General Charlie C. McCall, who with his department is cooperating in the state's inquiry into the Blount county flogging.

Reports that Mr. Esdale was in conference with Governor Graves Thursday were not verified. Officials at the capitol stated that they had not seen Mr. Esdale.

Esdale was registered at the Exchange hotel during the day but checked out early in the evening.

Ku Klux Klan - 1927

Alabama

MOBILE CONDEMNS RECENT FLOGGINGS

Schwarz Reads From Judge Jones' Charge to Grand Jury Presenting Resolutions

MOBILE, ALA., July 12.—Special to The Advertiser.—That flogging outrages have brought shame and disgrace on the commonwealth of Alabama is the text of a resolution adopted unanimously by the city commission of Mobile Tuesday, calling on Gov. Graves and Attorney General McCall to punish those guilty of these acts.

The resolution was offered by Commissioner Schwartz who speaking to his motion, referred to the charge made by Judge Walter B. Jones to the Montgomery county grand jury and reported by The Montgomery Advertiser. Commissioner Schwartz read from the quoted charge of Judge Jones. The city resolution refers to the floggings recently in Alabma of Jeff Calloway, an orphan boy at Oneonta, and a farm-wife, Mrs. Bertha Slay at Florence.

The text of the Mobile resolution concurred in by Mayor Hartwell and Commissioner Bates is as follows:

"Whereas, there has recently occurred within the borders of the state of Alabama several occurrences where citizens were punished without due process of law by being unmercifully flogged, and

"Whereas such unwarranted and illegal procedure is a challenge to decency, to civilization and to orderly government in the state of Alabama therefore be it resolved by the city commissioners of the city of Mobile, in official session, that we urge upon the governor of Alabama, the attorney general of Alabama, and all law enforcement agencies, the supreme importance of ferreting out and punishing those guilty, directly or indirectly of these outrages, which have brought shame and disgrace to the commonwealth of Alabama."

"Camp Lindbergh" will be the name of the training camp of 166th observation squadron, Alabama national guard which will be located at Monroe Park Mobile, July 17-31.

The city commissioners of Mobile on Tuesday addressed a letter which will be personally delivered to Col. Lindbergh, in which the air hero is invited to visit the camp during its period of duration. The invitation of Mobile is supplemented by letters from Governor Graves and from Gen. F. E. Butler, adjutant of the camp. The camp is named in honor of Lindbergh, because as the commissioner's letter recites, "You have so signally honored the national guard and through it the people of America."

The city of Mobile Tuesday awarded a medal to Emma Gallagher, 12 year old Daphne girl for her part in the rescue of Miss Martha Herrin, Daphne normal school teacher, and gave honorable mention to three young men, Prof. Austin Meadows, Hartley Nelson and Fred Penry, also of Daphne, who came to the girl's assistance after Emma had held Miss Herrin above water until the rescuers arrived.

Two other young men, Allie Styron and Ben Jenkins, lost their lives when they dived overboard to go to Miss Herrin's assistance, but by a strange coincidence, both died of heart failure as they struck the water.

Mayor Hartwell pinned the medal on Miss Gallagher at the presentation ceremony.

ALABAMA ON TRIAL.

Three floggings by hooded mobs have been reported in Alabama within two weeks.

All the victims were tied and whipped with leashes, it is said, until great welts stood out upon their naked bodies.

All were comparative boys, and one of them, at least, is alleged to have committed no other offense than to have been in possession of a pint of bootleg liquor "which the members of the masked band proceeded to drink."

When will this barbarism, perpetrated by cowards who have not the courage to uncover their faces, cease?

Not until courts and juries make examples of them, as in Coffee and Stephens counties, in Georgia.

The whole state of Alabama is on trial, and it is up to Governor Graves, who is a vigorous, high-toned, honorable young executive, to see that the good name of the state is vindicated, if it takes the state militia to do it.

It matters not whether these barbarians are the members of a secret, hooded order or not.

The fact is paramount that law and order cannot prevail where the mob has immunity.

And it is one or the other.

There is no middle ground.

It is impossible to blow hot and cold at the same time.

Either hooded hoodlumism must be the order of the day or the law must stand supreme. Behind one is the spirit of anarchy. Behind the other is orderly government.

The wave of "night riding" and of community terrorizing by masked barbarians is sweeping over sections of the south to such an extent that the decency of the whole nation is shocked.

The economic damage to the south will be incalculable unless swift and sure punishments are administered.

The situation is becoming alarming.

The law-abiding public ought to rise up in righteous indignation and either put the hooded mobs out of existence and send the members to the chaingangs and penitentiaries, or capitulate and frankly admit that inquisition reigns and that there is no alternative.

Surely this cannot result in a civilized country.

TWO WOMEN HELD WITH THREE MEN IN FLORENCE BEATING

Warrants Sworn Out By Chief State Law Enforcement Officer McAdory After Victim Changes Story

NEGRO WHIPPED TO FORCE LAND SALE IN BIRMINGHAM

Esdale Will Prosecute Lad's Attackers If Named Assistant Attorney General

BIRMINGHAM, ALA., July 13.—Special to The Advertiser.—The real estate dealer believed to have negotiated the sale of the property of Arthur Hitt, a negro, after Hitt had been flogged by a body of men, ordered to sell and threatened with death if he "mentioned the affair" is known to Solicitor Jim Davis and he will be summoned before the grand jury Thursday morning as the first open move of the county to stop "such outrages" in Jefferson.

Following close on the heels of announcement of the Hitt flogging near Birmingham, state law enforcement officers in Florence arrested five persons, three men and two women on charges of conspiracy to assault Mrs. Bertha Slay, 28, whipped last Wednesday night by a masked band. The persons are being held in the Florence jail in lieu of $300 bond each. They say they are not guilty. They probably will face the court early in August.

Aside from disclosure of the Hitt flogging and the Slay arrests the major developments in the various flogging probes throughout Alabama were:

1. Hearing by the Jefferson county grand jury of witnesses in the McSweeney flogging in which Warden Warren, county employe; Earl Taft and John Railey, are charged with violation of section 49-38 as a result of a whipping administered by three masked men to Hugh McSweeney and Pearl Boggs several weeks ago at Patton Chapel.

2. Continued efforts of city, county and state authorities to gather evidence in the flogging of Eaton Murchison, 17 year old Bessemer youth, whipped by a masked band of five men, wearing Ku Klux Klan robes, on Sunday night, June 26, in Midfield, when he was snatched from a parked automobile.

3. Preparation of the subpoena list by officials of the 16th judicial district for the Blount county grand jury which will convene Monday to probe the case of the flogging of Jeff Calloway, 19, Oneonta orphan.

4. Announcement by Attorney General McCall that he would handle the prosecution of Calloway's floggers and the attorney general's refusal to reply to newspaper stories saying that Esdale would accept an attorney generalship and prosecute the Oneonta case if McCall were willing. McCall indicated that correspondence with Esdale was finished until the grand dragon of the Alabama Ku Klux Klan answered his letter demanding names of Calloway's floggers.

The Hitt case was brought to light Wednesday morning when J. F. Smith of 22nd street, North, came to Solicitor Davis' office and related how he had gleaned the information from the "old negro" that a bunch of men had visited him, whipped him, forced him to sell a 60-acre tract of valuable land adjoining the Louisville and Nashville railroad in township 15, range 1, west, and then told him, "Nigger, you will be killed if you mention this affair."

Immediate investigation by forces from Sheriff Hartsefeld's office and from the solicitor's office disclosed that the negro had been whipped and that a few days afterward he sold the property to an "unknown" person for $900. The property, according to Smith is worth $6,000. After selling the property, the negro, termed a "good farmer," moved to Village Springs, where Smith said, "he lives under constant fear of death."

Solicitor Davis believes that information gained by investigators on Wednesday will lead to an arrest or an indictment. Aside from this he would not discuss the case. Most of the investigation will be carried on behind the closed doors of the grand jury room

The charge of conspiracy to assault Mrs. Bertha Slay were sworn out against Allen Butler, Mrs. Allen Butler, Charles Lindsay, Mrs. Lucile Lindsay and Albert Lindsay, all of East Florence.

The arrests were the result of a sworn statement made by Mrs. Slay on Tuesday to Walter K. McAdory, chief of the state law enforcement department, in which she absolved the Ku Klux Klan of blame and in which she named the persons arrested as members of the party which whipped her.

Active work in preparing the witness list for the Blount county grand jury, issuing subpoenas and gaining additional evidence was carried on in Gadsden and Oneonta by Solicitor W. R. Rains of the 16th judicial circuit and Blount county officials. Solicitor Rains will go to Oneonta Thursday to receive names of the men who will compose the grand jury.

In the Murchison case nothing new was uncovered. Young Murchison has been unable to identify any of the men who took him from his automobile in Midfield, whipped him and then took two girls accompanying him and Ernest Smitterton, Bessemer barber, home. An arrest in this case is doubtful, officers say. It may be presented to the grand jury if sufficient evidence can be gathered, Solicitor Davis said Wednesday.

GOVERNOR NOTIFIED

First arrests to be made in connection with the series of four floggings perpetrated by masked bands in Alabama in recent weeks, were reported to Gov. Bibb Graves from Florence on Wednesday afternoon by Chief Walter K. McAdory of the state law enforcement department.

Chief McAdory's report which was made by telegraph, stated that on direction of Circuit Solicitor Henry D. Jones of Florence, that warrants were sworn out by him, Mr. McAdory, for Allen Butler, Mrs. Allen Butler, Albert Lindsey, Lucile Lindsey and Charlie Lindsey, charging them with conspiracy to assault and beat Mrs. Bertha Slay. These warrants, Chief McAdory's report stated, had already been executed.

Taken from her home near Florence on the night of Wednesday, July 6, Mrs. Slay was carried into the yard, placed across a barrel and flogged with switches. While the flogging was being administered, her husband and sister were forcibly detained in the house by other members of the masked band who committed the outrage. Mrs. Slay first stated she had been whipped by "Kluxers" but later repudiated this statement, saying that

he was not whipped by members of
he Ku Klux Klan and that several
omen were included in the party of
oggers.

Late Wednesday afternoon, Governor
raves was still engaged in hearing
atements for and against executive
emency for Clyde Reese Bachelor
ho is condemned to die in the electric
hair at Kilby prison on July 15.
hough the chief executive could not
e seen, it was stated he had received
o further reports on investigations
now being conducted by the state into
the recent floggings in the counties of
Blount and Jefferson.

ALABAMA REPORTS THIRD FLOGGING

Birmingham, Ala., July 10.—(AP)—The third flogging in Alabama within two weeks became known tonight, according to the Birmingham Age-Herald, which says that Estor Murchison, 17 years old, of Bessemer, Ala. was taken from an automobile in which were three companions, two of them "strange" girls, Sunday night June 26, near Bessemer, by five hooded and masked men and whipped with a leash.

All three victims have described the flogging bands as being robed in regalia similar to that of the Ku Klux Klan.

The hooded men approached the car, Murchison told the Age-Herald, and said, "Mule, we have been looking for you for a long time. Let's go." Mule is Murchison's nickname, it is understood. After being carried a short distance into a nearby wood, he was held to a tree and whipped until his back was severely welted, the youth told the newspaper.

Returning to the automobile, the band held a "kangaroo court," Murchison is quoted as saying, and decided to take the girls, whom he believed were "bait to get me whipped" to their homes. Two men he believed were "policemen" drove up in another automobile and conversed with the band, Murchison declared, then departed.

After telling Ernest Smitterton, 18, also of Bessemer, Murchison's companion, he was a "good boy," both men were told to go home. Then forcing the girls into their machine, the robed band drove away, he said.

CRIMES OF [illegible] AS CO[illegible] ALAB[illegible] RES

Dr. Carson [illegible] Upon Right Thinking People To Assist in Getting Rid of Such Lawlessness

Arrest and Conviction of Night Riders Put Squarely Up to Officials in Sermon by Dr. McGuire

Without collusion between them, each speaking on the question according to his own mind, two Presbyterian ministers of Montgomery united Sunday morning in denouncing the activities of night riding floggers.

Dr. H. V. Carson, pastor of the Trinity Presbyterian church, announced Saturday that he would speak on their activities. Dr. Donald C. MacGuire, pastor of the First Presbyterian church, had chosen the same subject for his sermon Sunday morning. The sermon had been partially on paper for two weeks.

Both branded the work of the masked lashmen as cowardly. Dr. Carson declared it the work of hypocrites and brutes. Dr. MacGuire denounced their attacks as inhuman and barbaric. Dr. Carson attacked flogging as un-American and unfair. Dr. MacGuire held it counter to public welfare and public safety.

Dr. Carson called upon the Christians and other right thinking people of the state to rid Alabama of such lawlessness.

"Let us say to the nightriders: 'You shall not crucify the freeborn men of America upon a fiery cross,'" he said.

Dr. MacGuire left the issue of the arrest and conviction of the guilty persons squarely up to the law officers of the state.

"It is a stain upon the honor of America and especially that of the state that such miscreants are at liberty so long. The sooner they are brought to the bars of justice the better for all concerned. Failure to do so stamps the authorities as either incompetent or willing to condone such barbarism," he declared.

The church in which Dr. Carson spoke was crowded to capacity. He took his text from the fourth chapter of Genesis, "The voice of thy brother's blood cryeth unto me from the ground," and from Matthew, "He that have ears to hear let him hear."

"I am going to make no tirade against any individual or organization," Dr. Carson said in beginning his sermon. "There can be no condemnation without a trial and the rule binds the church as well as others. I am not talking against the Ku Klux Klan as such, but against an outbreak of sin and lawlessness in our state the stench of which rise sto the nostrils of God. If the shoe fits you, wear it.

"There are three voices which speak to mankind. The first is the voice from within, the voice of conscience. Its vocabulary is limited to a few decisive phrases. The second is the voice from without. It is the voice which says: 'I am my brother's keeper' and should hear his cries.' Ships at sea, when they answer an SOS call flung through the heavens by radio heed the voice from without. Land stations shut down so that the voice at sea may be more plainly heard.

Spiritual SOS

The church, in the same way, answers a spiritual SOS. Workers of the church may be found in all corners of the earth valiantly facing certain death that they may bring aid to those who are in distress.

"Shall the church not heed the voice of blood as it cries from the soil of Alabama?

"I dare to make this plea, in the name of Christ," he said. "Such lawlessness in Alabama must be stopped I would blush with shame if the church did not heed the voices of those helpless people who have been brutally whipped and raise its voice in protest

"The stories of many harrowing experiences have flooded the newspapers of our state. There have been many of them. I bring you one scene; and men, think, it may have been your mother or your sister or your wife.

"It is midnight. The denizens of the dark and the skunks of the woods are prowling. The moon has hidden its face in shame and the Heavenly Father has brought a veil of clouds to hide the stars. And here is a woman, a helpless woman. She may be a woman of the streets, but nevertheless she is a helpless and defenseless woman, the kind perhaps that Jesus protected and of whom he said: 'Let him among you who is without sin, first cast a stone at her.'

"Here, in the midst of the south where southern chivalry is a boast she stands bound hand and foot. Her clothing is torn from her back. Before her stand men, masked men, who ply a whip across her back with all of their brutal and cowardly strength until the flesh gaps open and the blood flows.

"In the name of your mother and my mother, in the name of your sister and my sister, I say unto you: It has got to stop.

Must Stop Mask

"It will never stop until the mask is stopped. The legislature is to consider a bill that will stop the wearing of masks. The right thinking people of the state are behind the bill.

"In the klan itself there are people who do not approve of such lawless things as have taken place in Alabama recently. They had no part in them. But the guilt is thrust back upon them by the actions of those with whom they have associated themselves.

"The legislature is saying to the good men in the organization: 'Help us tear the mask away.'

"If I were on the inside I would ask the legislature to pass this law tomorrow," he said. "The challenge of the hour to the Christians and right thinking people of Alabama is to pass this law.

"The obligation to do away with masked night riders is peculiarly placed upon the shoulders of the church. Many of the atrocities were done in the name of the church. One of them at least was begun when a boy was taken by masked men as they left a church and at the very doors of the church itself.

"The third voice that speaks to men is the voice of God. In the screams of that woman there in the dark sounds the voice of God. The voice of conscience, the voice of man and the voice of God unite in crying for redress for the wrongs that have been done.

"The floggings constitute a blot upon the escutcheon of the church. Over in Georgia that distinguished pedagogue and Sunday school superintendent Mr Acree, was among those who flogged a woman. He took her head and held it between her knees while his heroic masked companions lashed her. That was a Sunday school superintendent. It is a travesty on the teachings of Jesus Christ.

"I am intolerant of only one thing and that is intolerance. The masked man is a hypocrite. That is the very definition of the word hypocrite. It means 'mask wearer.'

Violate Fair Play

"These floggings violate every rule of fair play. In football and in baseball, in boxing and in all American sports we have officials who rule on the fairness of the plays. Americans are noted for their love of fair play.

"Is there anything fair in what these men do? Is it fair to take evidence, that comes perhaps from some gossiping old woman and render a verdict of guilty? Is it fair for a band of masked men to go to execute a sentence passed by that masked court and to send one of their number with a lie upon his lips to persuade the unwarned and unheard object of their wrath to come out of his home?

"Is it fair for them to take him with their heroic muscular supremacy, bind him and lash him?

"It is a stab at fair play.

"During the war I associated with some wounded Englishmen who had come to this country. While they were here one day one of them came in where I was. His eyes were big with astonishment. 'I have seen it,' he cried, 'I have really seen it. I did not know such things were really done in this country.'

"He had seen a man lynched. He had seen the riddled body taken and dragged through the streets behind an automobile.

"We can speak of the boundless resources of the state of Alabama, of her tremendous mineral wealth and the fertility of her soil. We can speak to visitors of her gigantic hydro-electric power. But for all that Alabama remains the home of unpunished floggers. It is a burning shame upon the state.

"The mask is a shield for the highway robber and is the 'open sesame' to our homes for burglars. It is the cloak behind which the red-handed feudists hide.

"Shall we deny the rights of childhood and of cripples, for they have not spared even them? Shall we deny the rights of southern womanhood? Shall we strip down the American flag to which we have vowed allegiance? Shall we bury its stars in the tomb of liberty, tear out its white and blue and leave only its red with which to weave a bloody crown?

"Let us say to the midnight riders: You shall not crucify the free born men of America upon a fiery cross."

Dr. McGuire's Sermon

Dr. McGuire chose his text from the Songs of Solomon, "Keep out the foxes, the little foxes that spoil our vineyards for our vines are tender."

The title of his sermon was "Moths and Foxes."

"The moth works in darkness," he said. "It is a fascinating creature but its work is done at night and it is very destructive." Later he drew an analogy between the work of moths and foxes and that of masked floggers.

He did not know until he saw an announcement in a newspaper Saturday that Dr. H. V. Carson, of the Trinity Presbyterian church, was to speak on the same subject, he said. His own sermon had been planned two weeks ago and had been partially placed on paper at that time. There was no collusion between himself and the other Presbyterian minister, he said.

Not Political Question

"This is not a political question, It may be made such but it is far broader than that. It is a question of public welfare. It is a question of public safety.

"It is a matter of the rights of man in the land of the free and the home of the brave. We pride ourselves on our democracy and our individual rights.

"The question is one of honor and of humanitarianism. It is one of common decency, of morality and of Christianity. On such a question the church cannot be silent without stultifying itself.

"As a minister of Christ, I am duty bound to speak against such cowardly attacks and I believe my church is with me when I take this stand.

"I do not know who is guilty of this inhuman and barbaric conduct. It matters not. They may be in the church, but they are not of it. They have certainly not caught the spirit of the lowly Nazarene who always sympathized with the weak and helpless. One is reminded rather of Judas who under cover of darkness stabbed his Master in the back with a kiss.

Work of Cowards

"Our constitution guarantees the privilege of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness to all our citizens

FLOGGING IS LAID TO ALABAMA KLAN

Montgomery, Ala., July 11.—(AP)—Members of the Ku Klux Klan flogged Jeff Calloway, Attorney General Charles C. McCall charged in a letter written under date of July 9 to James Esdale, head of the hooded order.

The attorney general calls upon Mr Esdale to supply the state officers with the names and addresses of those members who participated in the unlawful whipping of the 19-year-old orphan of Oneonta. Mr. McCall recites in his letter that it is understood the order stands for law, order and justice. He claims that he is in possession of information that the youth was beaten by members of the klaverns at Oneonta and Tarrant City.

In his letter the attorney general says that the state knows that members of the Ku Klux Klan commited the unlawful act. He further says that the state believes that Mr. Esdale is head of the klan in Alabama and the official heads of the local klans at Oneonta and Tarrant City know the men who participated in the whipping, or are in position to ascertain the full facts.

"Can Mr. Esdale or the heads of these local klans," asks Mr. McCall, 'overlook the demands of justice and still 'assert that these organizations are truly representative of the principles you publicly pronounce?'"

Ku Klux Klan - 1927

Alabama

MAN'S INHUMANITY TO MAN IN ALABAMA

It may become necessary for such States as Alabama to repay floggers in kind. Thus when 18 carloads of men seize a 19-year-old youth and beat him into insensibility, the State would step in and through its courts prescribe that if 18 carloads of men are convicted they will be whipped by the county sheriff. In some States wife-beaters may upon conviction be flogged. Why not man-beaters in Alabama?

To be sure, even under this suggested new law, we should still be confronted with the difficulty of convicting the accused. We can get evidence against the owners of booze in Alabama because that is the specialty of our officers of the law, and we can convict the owners of booze—but we almost never get any evidence against men who combine against an individual citizen and beat him half to death. The reason is that we do not try. Our officers have no stomach for that sort of chase. It stimulates their professional pride to fall upon a small group of otherwise harmless men in some remote swamp, capture their running still, shackle the men and jail them—if indeed, they do not shoot the transgressors.

But if the same moonshiners had whipped a neighbor, the chances are ever that no effort would have been made by the same officers to arrest them. They have received no encouragement from the men above them in authority, nor from the various "moral" leagues, unions and societies of the State, to concern themselves with anything except liquor, chicken fights, boxing matches, poker, crap games and slot machines!

The homes of law-abiding citizens have been entered by officers with search warrants on suspicion that contraband liquor may have been hidden inside—blank warrants issued sometimes by irresponsible justices of the peace, and the automobiles of citizens have been stopped in the highways and searched without warrants.

But no suspected flogger in Alabama has been halted in the highways and questioned by a suspicious officer. No home has been entered, with or without warrant, and searched for evidence that might convict a man who joined with other men to commit a cruel assault upon a helpless individual.

An assistant examiner of public accounts, in the pursuit of his official duties, can go into a north Alabama county, pounce upon a hard-working, conscientious school teacher and hold up her pay because of a technical violation of the law requiring her to read a Biblical passage to her pupils. Later as Attorney-General of the State he can set a precedent for personal detective work in uncovering violations of the grog law and the law against petty gambling—a "moral" crusader who nevertheless apparently remains unmoved in the face of one outrage after another upon the bodies of defenseless citizens in Alabama, and unmoved also by numerous instances of intimidation by organized gangs.

The Governor of Alabama can descend upon the quiet and orderly community of Montgomery with am ambitious moral and political program—Montgomery, where life is relatively safe and the human body is relatively secure against assault—and elsewhere in Alabama he can make pretty speeches in the interest of morality, religion, good citizenship, etc.,—but that voice has emitted no thunder tones against the cowardly gangs of Alabama who take the law into their own hands and punish transgressors—and who go farther and make and seek, by threats, intimidation and boycot, to enforce a private law against unpopular non-conformists. This same Governor is strong and resolute in dealing with convicted felons, especially man-killers, but we look in vain for signs of executive vigor and for evidence of indignation at the depredations of midnight riders,—nocturnal heroes of countless one-sided battles! Instead, we find only silence and complacency.

Alabama's two United tSates Senators have revealed a most touching anxiety lest somebody besides Andrew J. Volstead shall write the interpretation of the 18th amendment. They have appeared on the hustings and in the churches of Alabama to speak for Idealism, Good Citizenship and Law Enforcement—eloquent men, both, capable of moving such of their followers as may be in an audience addressed by them. They are men capable of high indignation in the face of some Great Wrong—but if they have ever denounced a midnight gang, or if they have ever condemned the principle on which midnight gangs are supposed to act, it must have been in the sweet hour of prayer in their private chapels.

The evil of official complaisance, if not timidity, is in misplaced emphasis. In Alabama the weight of the State, if we except such crimes as murder and robbery, is thrown against the petty vices of men rather than against the major vice of brutish tyranny and the commission of personal physical outrages, as well as heartless injustices of various kinds.

Men in the highest places of authority in this State, for reasons known both to themselves and to the public, are not prepared to announce and then wage a sustained and determined warfare upon the monstrous evil known as Man's Inhumanity to Man.

The hounds of the State smell blood and lift their voices to bay sonorously when they strike the trail of the citizen who dallies unwisely with a petty vice that at least affords some pleasure and amusement to men—but they slink away or lie quiet when agencies of sheer cruelty pass in the night This is because their masters who rule them and rule the rest of us have trained them that way.

Coincidentally today is the anniversary of the adoption of the Declaration of Independence by the colonies. The Declaration of Independence, that classic denunciation of a foreign tyrant who denied to the residents of this country those liberties which are the rig— of every free man—the Declaration of Independence which paved the way to the adoption of the Contsitution of the United States, guaranteeing to every citizen the right to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness except when duly and lawfully convicted by a jury of his peers.

ALABAMA LAW ENFORCEMENT.

"There have been scores, if not hundreds, of whippings in Alabama within the last five years," says The Montgomery Advertiser "and we doubt if anybody has even been indicted." Why should anybody? Many of the floggings are attributed to the salutary moral forces of the Ku Klux Klan, the ruler of Alabama. Besides, the law doesn't bother about trifles; and the full rigor of justice is given to enforcing that cardinal statute, the State prohibitory laws. Under the administration of Governor BIBB GRAVES, darling of the Klan, the sole essential purpose of State Government in Alabama has been pursued vigorously, though the Attorney-General has done glorious work against slot machines. These devices of Satan have been pretty well shattered, and the State Law Enforcement Department has "succeeded in making Alabama so dry that not a ten-year-old girl in the State can buy a drop of liquor."

Such was the regrettable language of our verjuiced Montgomery contemporary, inviting the Governor and his enforcers to bring the floggers to justice. The first gracious incident was the reproof given to a boy of 19, an orphan who had made his way "almost from babyhood." He was standing in front of a church. Eighteen cars, "filled with grotesque figures," came along He was thrown into a car, kicked in the face, taken out at a lonely spot, beaten soundly and miscellaneously by the morals-enforcers and left half conscious. In spite of the hideous fact that he admitted having "taken a drink" and had a bit of whisky in his possession, will it be believed that the people of his town and county boil with wrath against his admonishers? State enforcement officers are trying to hunt them down. A special Grand Jury has been called.

The second gracious incident was the taking of a woman out of her own home by a gang of masked men, said to have worn the sacred robes of the truest of "Americans." She was tied to a barrel and drubbed till the strong right hands of the admonishers grew weary. This case of discipline, coming so soon after the other, made a lot more of Alabamians hot. After a period of meditation Governor BIBB GRAVES declares that "flogging in Alabama must cease." New laws are proposed, as usual. Isn't the root of the trouble to be found in the grotesque magnification of the prohibition law and the pursuit of violators of it as the chief, practically the only criminals? Commenting on the stress laid upon the violation of the Prohibition law in the Sunday-before-the-Fourth sermons of Birmingham preachers, The News says:

> Graver crimes now plentiful in the country were apparently unnoted. Men and boys done to death by prohibition enforcement officers who had "fired first"—the blood of these victims failed, it is reported, to move any one of these distinguished clergymen to protest. Lynchings and burnings at the stake that have shamed the country received from these monitors on "preservation of order" and "obedience to law" not even the faintest allusion. Flogging of men, boys and even women by hooded and robed brigands, stalking the highways by day and by night—crimes that brand communities that tolerate them barbaric—upon this subject what word of protest was spoken on Fourth of July Eve in the year 1927 of "the Christian Era" from any one of these Birmingham pulpits?

This monomania, this everlasting carping on one law and one duty, is common. Why bother about floggers and lynchers and such small deer? No matter what you do if your 'eart is true to Volsteadism.

INSTRUCTS ESDALE TO REVEAL NAMES IN NAME OF LAW

Challenges Grand Dragon To Show Identity of Persons Attending Meeting Before Flogging Calloway

SAYS EIGHT KLANSMEN ADMINISTERED BEATING

No Arrests in Florence and Bessemer Outrages, Reported

Determined that mob and masked rule shall not dominate Alabama, Attorney General Charlie C. McCall has thrown the gauntlet at the feet of James Esdale, grand dragon of the Knights of the Ku Klux Klan in Alabama in a challenge for the klan to show its colors and ferret out the cowardly floggers of Tuscumbia Calloway, Oneonta orphan.

Evidence unearthed in the investigation has shown that Calloway was taken from the Antioch church by eight klansmen on the night of June 26 and that eight klansmen did the flogging, Attorney General McCall said.

Meanwhile the investigation into the flogging of Mrs. Bertha A. Slay, Florence, Ala., woman who was forcibly dragged from her bed while her husband was held by members of the party and forced to fall across a barrel and submit to a brutal whipping continued with little results Monday. No arrests in the flogging of Easton Murtchison, 17-year-old Bessemer youth, have been reported.

Attorney McCall's challenge to James Esdale, as head of the Klan, was in the form of a letter dated July 9. In the letter Attorney McCall says that the state knows that members of the Knights of the Ku Klux Klan committed this unlawful act.

Can Mr. Esdale or the heads of the local Klans he asks, overlook the demands of justice and still "assert that these organizations are truly representative of the principles you publicly pronounce."

Letter Follows.

Attorney McCall has received no reply to the letter. Attorney McCall's letter follows:

July 9, 1927.

"Mr. James Esdale, attorney, First National Bank Bldg., Birmingham, Alabama.

"Der Sir—As attorney general of the state of Alabama it is my duty to investigate and prosecute violations of the criminal laws of the state. Very recently a man named Calloway, who lives in Blount county, Alabama, was unmercifully whipped by a band of men who were at that time wearing the robes and masks of the Knights of the Ku Klux Klan. This whipping took place in Jefferson county shortly after the adjournment of a meeting at Antioch church in Blount county, which meeting was attended by a large number of the members of the Knights of the Ku Klux Klan of Oneonta and Tarrant City and nearby territory. The masked men who whipped Calloway proceeded in their robes and masks from Antioch church immediately after the meeting, taking Calloway without lawful authority to the place where they whipped him.

"Mr. John Wade of Oneonta, Ala., states that he was acting Exalted Cyclops (or head official) of the Oneonta klan at Antioch church on the night the whipping took place and that he had previously extended an invitation to the Tarrant City Klan to attend the meeting at Antioch church. Mr. Wade also states that he had previously been in communication with you, had requested you to send a speaker to Antioch church for the meeting night and that you acceded to his request and that the man you sent was equipped with a mask and robe of regular Klan regalia which he wore to Antioch church, after having robed himself in the Klan hall at Oneonta.

"From information in my possession I believe that the men who whipped Calloway were members of the Knights of the Ku Klux Klan and that they were members of the Oneonta and Tarrant City Klans and others. You are in a position to verify all of this, as it is generally understood that you are the official head of the Knights of the Ku Klux Klan in Alabama.

"Considering your position in the Knights of the Ku Klux Klan in Alabama and being told that this organization stands for law and order, for justice and for the due administration thereof and that fundamentally it is opposed to any individual or group of individuals taking the law in their own hands, and that the organization is composed of men who will not lie, men who are honest, and considering the connection that must exist between state klan headquarters and all local klans and the full and ready means of communication that must exist especially where the units are nearby and believing confidently that the whipping of Calloway as disclosed by evidence in my possession, was accomplished by members of the Knights of the Ku Klux Klan, and there being evidence implicating several of them, I hereby call upon you, the head of the Klan in Alabama and citizen of this state, to give to me as attorney general of Alabama, from such investigation as you have made or will make, the names and addresses of all of the members of the klan who participated either directly or indirectly in the unlawful detention and whipping of Calloway at the time and place and under the circumstances mentioned, with all facts pertinent thereto.

"I am aware of the fact that you do not have to accede to this request, but as stated above, I am told that the Knights of the Ku Klux Klan stands for law and order and the due administration of justice and is composed of honest men who will not lie. The state knows that members of the Knights of the Ku Klux Klan committed these unlawful acts. The state believes that you as the klan's official head, and the official heads of the local klans at Oneonta and Tarrant city know all of the men who participated in this whipping or else that you are in a position to ascertain the full facts. The state knows that you can ascertain all persons who are Klansmen who were present at Antioch church. Can you or the heads of local klans overlook the demands of justice and still assert that these organizations are truely representative of the principles you publicly pronounce.

"Yours truly,
"Charlie C. McCall, Attorney General of Alabama."

JUDGE JONES CALLS ON CITIZENS TO RISE AGAINST FLOGGING

Declares Hooded Gangs Are Betrayers of State and Greatest Menace Facing People Today, in Charge to Grand Jury; Contrasts System of Jurv Selection

Calling upon the people of Alabama to raise their voices in protest against the cowardly outrages which have been perpetrated upon citizens of this state in the recent floggings in north Alabama, Judge Walter B. Jones, in his charge to the Montgomery grand jury yesterday, declared there is only one place for justice—the court established by law.

After showing the lawlessness in citizens who take matters in their own hands, Judge Jones took occasion to tell of how and by whom the grand and petit juries of the county are drawn and selected; and gave a striking comparison of old and new methods of drawing juries.

About the flogging disorder, he said:

"I am convinced, looking back upon very recent happenings in our state, that the hour has struck when the entire pnysical and moral force of the state must be exerted if we are to continue to have a government of known laws and not of irresponsible men.

"The greatest menace facing our people today, a menace that has received aid and comfort from many who have betrayed their state, is the spirit abroad in the land that men, or any set of men, have the right whenever they please, and wherever they please, to set themselves up in place of your courts, and by cowardly brutal and lawless acts deny to the law abiding citizens of Alabama their constitutional right to a day in court and to trial by jury.

"In what kind of court is the accused citizen entitled to his day?

No Dark Hidden Places

"Not in a court which meets in dark and hidden places; not in a court whose judges and jurors are shrouded and hooded from head to foot; not in a court where no voice is heard in defense of the accused; not in a court where idle tattle and the filthy gossip of scandal-mongers is given credence; not in a court the names of whose judges and jurors are secret and unknown; not in a court that is ashamed to meet publicly; not in a court that seeks to execute its judgments except at night and in secret and out of the way places and that is ashamed for the rising sun to dawn upon its sessions—

"No, the people of Alabama are not going to allow that sort of court to pass upon the constitutional rights of their citizens. Our peole know but one kind of court, and that is a court established by law.

"It is a court where the accused has his day; it is a court where the accused has a trial by a jury of his peers; it is a court whose judges and jurors are under oath and sit by the authority of the people; it is a court where the accused knows and is confronted with the witnesses against him; it is a court that summons witnesses for the accused and hears both sides; it is a court that may imprison liars and perjurers; it is a court that meets in a public place; it is a court that meets openly at a known hour of a known day; it is a court that protects the rights of the lowly and weak with all the power at its command; it is a court that looks not to a man's race, his creed, or his political beliefs in measuring his rights; it is a court into whose counsels envy, hatred and prejudice do not come; it is a court which sits in the full glare of the midday sun; it is a court that administers justice without sale or denial; it is a court where under the law of the land every man is given what is his.

Should Protest Outrage

"Every voice in Alabama should be lifted in protest against the cowardly outrages which have been perpetrated upon citizens of this state. From the bench, from the press, from the pulpit, from the street corner, from factory and field, from store and office, should swell a mighty chorus of protest and condemnation—a chorus which should increase in volume until those who have defied the law, wreaked their unholy vengeance upon helpless citizens, and who have flouted the majesty and dignity of our state, are brought to justice and placed in prison cells.

"I call upon every Alabamian, regardless of his place or rank, his wealth or poverty, his race or his creed, to stand up and speak out against the unspeakably cruel outrages which have disgraced our state, and let it be known that the forces of law and order here in Montgomery, and elsewhere all over the state, are not to have their government set aside, and their citizens beaten and flogged, but that the law-abiding people of this state will battle to the last ditch in defense of the constitutional rights of citizens of Alabama, rights secured to them by the shedding of so much holy blood, and the glorious sacrifices of some of the noblest patriots who ever lived."

Ku Klux Klan - 1927

UNMASK!

Mask-wearing in public places is indefensible and must be outlawed. All good citizens, we believe, must now realize that the mask in Alabama is a source of unmitigated evil. It is a menace to life and limb and a reproach to civilized society. Concealed under hood and robe men have stalked about in the night in Alabama and cruelly assaulted helpless people, and in other instances intimidated and wronged citizens of this State.

If the decent element in the Ku Klux Klan of Alabama—and certainly there is a decent element in the order—appreciates the gravity of the situation now confronting the Klan in Alabama, it will instantly throw its support to the movement in the legislature to outlaw the mask and robe and to strengthen the law against flogging.

A practice that cannot be defended ought to be denounced and outlawed; good men everywhere must accept this principle, whether they be Knights of the Ku Klux Klan or not.

If this principle is rejected by a majority of the members of the legislature, the people of this State will know where to place the responsibility—a responsibility which the Klan in its present precarious position can scarcely afford to assume.

Decent Klansmen do not condone violence. All intelligent Klansmen must know what is perfectly obvious to everybody else, namely, that the flogging evil cannot be effectively grappled with until it is made unlawful in Alabama to wear disguises in public places, and made a felony for men thus disguised to attack citizens of this State

The Advertiser does not see how any good citizen can fail to applaud the move in the legislature to take this step in the interest of common humanity and for the sake of Alabama's good name.

There are now but two classes of people in Alabama—those who condone flogging by masked cowards, and those who condemn such outrages. Those who are against flogging will be for taking the mask off in public places; those who condone such brutish practices will oppose legislation that has no other purpose than to extirpate them.

THE RISE OF BARBARISM IN ALABAMA

How Alabama progresses! A fortnight ago a gang of hooded demons unmercifully flogged an orphan youth in Blount county. Ten days later, it is now revealed, another band of masked hoodlums in Colbert county went a step farther and vented their cruelty upon the tender body of a helpless young woman.

Thus does one week bring a horrifying example of man's inhumanity to man in Alabama, and the next the more revolting spectacle of man's inhumanity to woman. Thus does the unchecked rise of barbarism in this State proceed with redoubled brutality from horror to horror.

How the feelings of the civilized people of Alabama must have boiled with indignation when they read yesterday morning of the vicious assault on Mrs. Bertha Slay, 28-year-old farmwife of Florence, perpetrated by a gang of fiends who, hiding their cowardly faces behind masks, ruthlessly pulled her from her bed, bound her to a barrel, and beat her with limbs cut from trees! What a story for the gentlefolk of Alabama to read on a beautiful Sabbath morning! What a tale for the clergymen of Alabama to turn over in their minds as they walked to their pulpits to preach the gospel of the brotherhood of man and the Fatherhood of God!

Well may the decent people of Alabama stand aghast at such brutality. Every blow of the lash inflicted on the body of a defenseless man or woman is a blow at them and their State and their law, and they may well suffer mental anguish over such degradation even as the flogging victims writhe in physical agony.

Does the law count for nothing in such affairs? Do hooded floggers consider themselves above the law? Are they justified in their cocksure feeling of safety from punishment? It would appear so. It is evident that they have come to believe they have nothing to fear.

The groans of Jeff Calloway, the 19-year-old orphan of Oneonta, have hardly ceased before, in another county in the same section of the State, the terrified cries of the farmwife of Florence pierce the midnight air as heartless ruffians beat her until they are arm-weary. The blood-clots raised under the skin of the former by the blows and kicks and cuffs of 18 carloads of beasts have not disappeared before similar marks are left on the body of the latter by another gang of lawless night-riders.

Alabama, the Orphan of Oneonta, still bruised and sore, continues to accuse thee! Beside him now stands the Farmwife of Florence, crushed and bleeding in body and spirit, and she, too, points an accusing finger at thee! Both, out of their pain and humiliation, protest against these outrages. Both demand that justice be done. Both have the right to expect protection from their State. Both have the right to expect their State to avenge them by punishing their assailants. Alabama, when will the Orphan of Oneonta and the Farmwife of Florence be avenged? When will all citizens of Alabama be able to feel safe from such outrages of law and decency?

The Orphan of Oneonta and the Farmwife of Florence have become symbols of outraged justice. They have become symbols of the resentment borne by the State's decent people against these outbursts of anarchy in Alabama.

So long as masked men may go into an Alabama home, drag a woman from her bed, forcibly detain her husband and her sister, and flog her until their lust for cruelty is satisfied, so long will Alabama harbor anarchy and barbarism, and so long will the civilized people of the State feel the shame and humiliation of unspeakable conditions of degradation.

What led the Colbert county gang to feel so safe in flogging Mrs. Slay ten days after the revolting affair at Oneonta? Did they not know that the Governor of the State, the Attorney General and the law enforcement department were taking action in the Blount county case?

Did they not know that the Legislature, only the day before, had adopted a resolution condemning the flogging of Jeff Calloway and commending the action of the Governor? Did they not know that officers were hot on the trail of the miscreants at Oneonta? Had they not read that arrests were expected within a few hours? Did they not know that the names of the floggers in the Blount county case were common knowledge in those parts? Did they not expect swift justice in the Oneonta case, and, if so, had they not reason to fear that they, too, would be quickly caught and punished?

Apparently, they did not fear arrests or punishment. In howsofar they were justified in feeling safe and secure from the law by events in Blount county we do not know. But it is reasonable to believe that if arrests had followed quickly at Oneonta, the Colbert county floggers would have been deterred. If they had seen that the State was quick to take action in such cases, it would have given them pause.

But what did they behold? They beheld a flogging in Oneonta, and the State authorities, spurred on by rising public indignation, investigating the affair and promising arrests, but no arrests yet made. It is now two weeks since the Orphan of Oneonta was beaten into semi-consciousness, and still no arrests have been reported.

Why did the gang flog Mrs. Slay? All that is known is what she told Sheriff Stutts of Colbert county, which was that she was beaten "because she would not confess to some scandal in the neighborhood." What scandal gossip may have spread concerning her we do not know. But that does not matter. What matters is that hooded brutes felt safe in invading the privacy of her home and beating her with limbs cut from trees, "until," as she said, "the men became tired," when they took a strap "like a fan belt from an automobile" and continued the whipping.

Governor Graves, when informed of the affair at Florence, said: "Flogging in Alabama must cease. I'll look into this case, and see that the offenders are brought to justice." Those are fair words, Governor. But let us hope arrests will not be so long in coming in this case as in that at Oneonta, lest, before justice is done in either instance, another appalling affair of the kind is flaunted in Alabama's face.

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According to Murtchison's account of the incident, he was in a car with Ernest Smitherton, 18, and two girls, in Midfield, a subdivision of Jonesboro, and containing no houses. Jonesboro is a suburb of Bessemer. As they sat in the car, he says, another automobile approached and stopped opposite them. This automobile contained five men, all masked and robed.

One of the men in the other machine called out, Murtchison says: "Mule, we've been looking for you for a long time. Let's go." "Mule" is Murtchison's "nick-name," it appears. He declares that he did not know what the man meant by his statement, and that he stepped out of his car into the roadway. As he did so, all five men leaped from the other auto and sprang upon him. He was taken into a strip of woods nearby and made to stand with his arms around a tree while the men beat him with a leather belt, until his back was severely welted.

After they had lashed him repeatedly, Murtchison declares, the masked and robed men took him back to his car. There followed a discussion whether Murtchison and Smitherton should be allowed to take the girls home, or whether the masked men should take them. Finally three of the robed figures left with the girls, leaving the remaining two members of the party of five floggers with the two boys. Presently the three men who had accompanied the girls to their homes, returned to where the boys were under guard.

Smitherton was taken to one side by the party of five and questioned. They decided he was a "good boy" and let him go, it appears. At this juncture, a third car drove up. In it were two other men. Murtchison described this third car as of the same type as those ordinarily used by members of the Birmingham police force. He said he thought tne two men were policemen, but was not sure. These men talked for some time with the robed members of the masked band, Murtchison says, and suddenly one of the men called and asked the two boys if they would rather take 25 licks or go to jail. Smitherton replied he would rather take the 25 licks, but Murtchison made no reply, he states. The same man then shouted back: "Don't let this happen again. Get for home." After that, according to Murtchison, all seven men drove away.

Young Murtchison alleges he recognized the insignia of the Ku Klux Klan on the robes of the five masked and robed men, and says the insignia was worn on the shoulder of the robe. The youth would not reveal the names of the two girls who were with him and Smitherton on the night Murtchison was whipped. He says he was ashamed to let anyone know of the affair, but did tell his parents about it. No report of the whipping was made to either the police department or the sheriff's office, he stated.

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"The course of procedure that will be followed out cannot be revealed, for reasons that should be clear to everyone," the governor said, "but I am determined that the guilty persons in this case, as well as in the case of young Calloway, shall be brought to justice. Nothing will be left undone toward the accomplishing of this purpose." The chief executive indicated that action by the state will be swift and effective. It was rumored in Montgomery Sunday evening that the investigation is already under way.

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Little information was available as a basis for the investigation, it was said, as Mrs. Slay could not identify any of her assailants. Her husband and sister, other than being detained in the house, were not molested by members of the band, who it is said, were unarmed. The Slay family resided in one of the poorer sections of Florence, it was said.

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The full text of the bill without the caption or enacting clause reads as follows:

"Section 1. Any person or persons who goes or appears on the streets or highways of the state, or within the curtilige of any private residence, not his own, with his or her face masked or concealed, in part or in whole, so that identification of such person or persons is prevented or made difficult, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and on conviction shall be punished by a fine of not less than one hundred dollars, and in addition thereto may be sentenced to hard labor for the county for not more than twelve months, at the discretion of the court. Provided, however, that this section shall not apply to persons acting bona fide as clowns, Santa Claus, or acting in any vaudeville or theatrical play, circus, or other bona fide public entertainment of like character.

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Ku Klux Klan - 1927

Alabama.

GRAVES TAKES HAND TO PROBE FLOGGING OF BLOUNT ORPHAN

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ASSIGNS FOUR OFFICERS TO INVESTIGATE CASE

Number of Auto License Expected to Prove Valuable Clue

All the power of the state of Alabama will be used to bring to justice those guilty of the brutal attack on Jeff Calloway, 19-year-old Blount county orphan youth, who was seized near Oneonta, Ala., a few days ago by a mob of masked men, carried into another county and cruelly beaten and flogged, and left lying on the ground in a semi-conscious condition.

This was made plain Monday evening by Governor Graves, who said that nothing will be left undone to capture and bring to trial the perpetrators of the outrage.

It was made known at the governor's office Monday morning that the chief executive had issued orders that four state law enforcement officers be dispatched immediately to the scene of the crime to make a thorough and complete investigation of the flogging of young Calloway—and that the officers were on the job.

The names of the officers assigned to this important work were not made known, officials pointing out that in the very nature of the investigation it is vital to its success that the names of the investigators be withheld.

Brutally Beaten

Young Calloway was brutally beaten by a band of masked and robed men who snatched him from in front of Antioch church and carried him by automobile across the Jefferson county line to the foot of Mount Pinson. Marks left by the cruel blows of the flogging rods extended from neck to ankles on the youth's body. According to Calloway, the mob which flogged him traveled to the scene of the whipping in 18 automobiles. He added that he noted 10 of the 18 automobiles carried Birmingham tags.

The young man was unable to explain the attack made upon him. Stating he had a small quantity of whisky in his pocket at the time and had taken a little of it, Calloway denied that he had ever sold any liquor. Antioch church, where the youth was seized and carried away to be flogged into a state of exhaustion, is located about five miles from Oneonta, Blount county. He said he was standing in front of the church when he saw the cavalcade of automobiles filled with grotesque figures, come up the road. As he stood watching, he said, he saw a man riding in the front car lean over and say something to a bystander. Almost immediately a number of men leaped from this car and sprang upon him.

Quickly Overpowered

Quickly overpowering him, the men flung him into one of the automobiles in the long procession. As he lay there he was kicked savagely in the face, cursed and told to keep his mouth shut. Arriving at the spot chosen by the mob, the youth was dragged from the car and beaten with sticks, straps and any other available weapon they could lay their hands on, it is stated. After beating him unmercifully, until he lapsed into a semi-conscious condition, the mob went off, leaving him lying on the ground where he had fallen.

Partially regaining his strength, Calloway dragged himself to a farm house about half a mile away, and spent the night there. From there he was taken to his home, 12 miles from Oneonta. Calloway declares he received no warning of the attack, by letter or otherwise, and no explanation of it was given by his assailants.

An orphan, Calloway has made his own way in the world, almost since infancy. Public indignation over the outrage is at fever heat in the community where Calloway resides. The stark brutality of the deed has sent a shudder of horror over the entire state, and mounting sentiment against the perpetrators has prompted first a suggestion and then a demand for a thorough investigation in order that the guilty may be brought to justice.

OFFICERS HOT ON TRAIL

BIRMINGHAM, ALA., July 4.—Special to The Advertiser.—Officers of Jefferson and Blount counties were believed to be hot on the trail of the masked men who snatched Jeff Calloway, 19-year-old Oneonta orphan from in front of Antioch church and carried him into Jefferson county where he was unmercifully flogged.

Sheriff Christ Hartsfield of Jefferson county, said Monday night that the license number of one of the cars used in the Calloway flogging was known and that he expected to have the numbers of the other cars, the majority of which were believed to be Jefferson county cars, during the early part of the week.

In the meanwhile, Governor Graves has assigned four state law enforcement officers to the Calloway case in an effort to clear up what Blount county citizens declare to be an outrage. Calloway, according to the story he told Blount county officers, was seized by a group of men in regalia and masks as he stood in front of the Antioch church near Oneonta. The men, some eighteen of them, threw him into a car, kicked him in the face to keep him from screaming, and drove into Jefferson county, where they put him out of the car and beat him. He was known as a hard worker, according to responsible persons in Oneonta, and the governor of Alabama took a hand in the investigation Monday, assigning the law enforcement men.

Sheriff Hartsfield has expressed determination to get them.

STEPHENS COUNTY ON TRIAL.

With warrants sworn out for fourteen alleged members of a flogging band in Stephens county, with the employment of such eminent criminal lawyers as George L. Goodle, of Franklin, and Fenmor Barrett, of Columbus, to assist the solicitor general in the prosecution, and with a representative grand jury of Stephens county citizens now investigating the atrocities that have shocked and horrified a whole nation, it does seem that a beginning has been made that may yet bring the hooded hoodlums to justice, and vindicate the good name of a county, the majority of whose citizens stand for law and order.

The county is on trial. The citizens of the county, the law-abiding as well as the lawless, are on trial. The very right of the existence of Stephens county is involved in this great issue as to whether the law shall be upheld and sustained, or a general capitulation be made to a mob of masked barbarians.

It is one or the other and the whole country is watching for the result.

The economic and social interest of the whole state of Georgia is hinged to a large degree upon whether the law and the courts are able to cope with inquisition.

From the latest disclosures not one but three women have been flogged in the Toccoa community in the last few weeks. One of them was made insensible, and her life for a time hung in the balance. Others were not only severely whipped but run out of the community. These barbarities, it is alleged, were administered on the mere gossip as to alleged indiscretions.

That phase, however, does not enter into the equation. There are laws to punish violators. The system of jurisprudence is the protecting arm of government.

The mob not only strikes at the court system, but seeks to undermine government.

A community must uphold the law or it must surrender to anarchy, for a mob is a riot, and the veiled members of the mob are rioters. There is no middle ground as between law and lawlessness.

All over America the press is focused upon Stephens county, in Georgia—just as it was focused upon Coffee county when Judge Harry Reed's court secured several convictions, and gave life terms to three of the masked murderers.

Coffee county vindicated herself. But Toombs did not.

It is is now up to Stephens to see whether she will follow the example of Coffee and clean house and reestablish the law for the mob.

If she does not, if convictions are not secured, when it is alleged to be a matter of common knowledge in the community as to who the culprits are, then that county will stand as a black spot upon the map of a great state, and will have forfeited the right of being the subdivision of a sovereign commonwealth.

As an illustration of the tremendous interest in the Stephens county crisis The Constitution is being deluged with letters and telegrams commending the fearless attitude of Dr. Pierce, editor of The Wesleyan Christian Advocate, and of its reproduction in the columns of this newspaper. It is impossible to publish all of these. It is unnecessary, as every law-abiding citizen everywhere wants to see justice swiftly meted.

Following is from the pastor of St. Paul's Methodist church in Atlanta:

Editor Constitution: I am writing to sincerely thank you for your strong and timely editorial in today's Constitution indorsing the editorial of Dr. Pierce in The Wesleyan Advocate of last week relative to the outrageous floggings of persons in Toccoa by hooded men.

The influence of your editorial and also the reproduction of his editorial on the front page of your great paper of this date will have a wholesome effect throughout this, our great southland. Certainly the time has come for the law-abiding people and all Christian people not only to speak out against this type of lawlessness, but to act; the time certainly has come for action.

I trust the other great dailies of the country will join you and the church journals in creating a sentiment that will mean a revolution and bring a day of peace and harmony.

With prayers and all good wishes, I am B. F. FRASER,
Pastor St. Paul M. E. Church, South.
Atlanta, Ga., June 28, 1927.

Following is a telegram from one of the most outstanding laymen of the state:

Augusta, Ga., June 29, 1927.

Editor Constitution: Your front page display in Tuesday morning's paper of Doctor Pierce's article in Wesleyan Christian Advocate regarding Toccoa outrages has been given same prominence by the splendid Augusta papers. I am a trustee of the Wesleyan and consider publication of this brave interference the greatest service rendered Georgia in the 50 years of Wesleyan's existence. If your good paper and other influential dailies and weeklies will follow the demand made of this legislature by Doctor Pierce to make it a crime for all would-be murderers and thugs to go about with white rags over their cowardly heads, Georgia would soon be delivered from its greatest shame. Please keep up your good work.

JOHN A. MANGET.

What will the grand jury of Stephens county do? That is the question of the hour.

If true bills are found what will petit juries do? That is equally pertinent.

Georgia has been cut up into small counties—a grave mistake.

It has been charged that intimidations and jury-box connections in small counties provide immunity to the hooded thugs who seek to "regulate" in defiance of law. This was charged in Toombs county.

The whole country is watching now to see if it will be true in Stephens.

We have confidence that Judge Sutton, Solicitor McMillan and the able private prosecutors employed by the mobs' victims will repeat the good results that obtained in Coffee, which restored the good name of that county by wiping hoodlumism from within its borders.

WIFE OF FARMER TAKEN FROM BED, BOUND TO BARREL

Husband and Sister Forcibly Held While Victim is Beaten With Tree Limbs at Home Near Florence

RIOT ON STREET CORNER IN ONEONTA IS QUELLED

Warrants Waiting But Officers Shy in Probe of Blount Orphan Whipping

"Flogging in Alabama must cease," said Governor Graves Saturday night when informed that a woman had been beaten by a masked gang in Florence, Ala., Wednesday. "I'll look into this case, and see that the offenders are brought to justice," he said. "That is all I care to say about it now."

FLORENCE, ALA., July 9.—(AP)—While her husband and sister were forcibly held in their farm home near here, Mrs. Bertha A. Slay, 28, was taken from her bed, bound to a barrel and severely beaten by a band of masked men last Wednesday night, it became known here tonight.

Sheriff Stutts of Colbert county, who is conducting an investigation of the affair, said Mrs. Slay told him the men "were klan costumes," and beat her "because she would not confess to some scandal in the neighborhood."

Mrs. Slay was unable to give an explanation of the affair. The men forced their way into the house late at night, the woman told Sheriff Stutts, forcibly detained her husband, Alvay Slay, and her sister, Miss Lula Dodson, in their beds, and took her into the front yard of their home, where she was tied to a barrel.

Limbs cut from trees were used in the whipping, she said, "until the men became tired," when they took a "strap like a fan belt from an automobile," and continued the whipping.

"They demanded that I confess to some scandal in the neighborhood, but I wouldn't," Mrs. Slay said.

News of the flogging did not become known until today, when Sheriff Stutts started an investigation.

NO ARRESTS PROMISED SOON IN ONEONTA CASE

BIRMINGHAM, ALA., July 9.—Special to The Advertiser.—Announcement by Walter K. McAdory, chief of the state law enforcement department, in Gadsden today, that no arrests would be made in the flogging of Jeff Calloway, Oneonta orphan, pending action of a special grand jury, was the subject of some comment in Birmingham today.

With 16 warrants issued against Blount and Jefferson county men and previous official announcements that arrests were expected within twelve or fifteen hours, citizens who deplore masked rule were perplexed over the sudden turn to hold action in abeyance until the grand jury meets.

They pointed out that the usual procedure of the state law enforcement department is to make arrests when warrants are issued, and let the grand jury investigate later. An arrest, it was said, would not deprive any citizen of his rights and would allow bond within the discretion of the sheriff or the court.

Judge Steele, of the Blount circuit court, today issued a call for the grand jury to convene on Monday, July 18.

This will mean a lapse of eight days at least before any action can be taken or before the warrants issued Friday afternoon can be served, provided the jury finds evidence sufficient to justify a trial.

While the secrecy that has marked the entire investigation still enshrouded the proceedings today, speculation was rife as to the possibilities a delay in action provides for the guilty parties.

According to veteran law enforcers, time, after a warning, is the best hope of the criminal. Being warned with a few days before arrest, there will be but little trouble in framing an iron-clad alibi, it was said.

Others pointed out that more time will also allow the officers to better perfect their case.

RIOT IN ONEONTA

ONEONTA, ALA., July 9.—(AP)—A riot broke out in Oneonta today following an investigation by state law enforcement officers into the activities of masked bands who have whipped eight persons in Blount county in the last two years.

Today's trouble culminated a discussion of the county's anti-flogging crusade by a group on a street corner. Deputies soon restored order with but one casualty. Deputy Sheriff A. B. Moore was bruised by flying fists.

Meanwhile there will be no arrests in connection with the flogging of Jeff Calloway several days ago until a special grand jury called to investigate the affair, reports its findings.

Calloway, a 19 year old farm youth was kidnapped by a band of masked men and beaten into unconsciousness because "he had a pint of whiskey" in his possession. Calloway told officers that members of the mob drank his whiskey while they whipped him.

CALLS SPECIAL SESSION

GADSDEN, ALA., July 9.—(AP)—A special grand jury has been called by Circuit Judge O. A. Steele to investigate the flogging of Jeff Calloway in Oneonta several days ago.

There will be no arrests until the grand jury acts it was made known today by W. K. McAdory, chief of the state law enforcement department.

Attorney General McCall will personally aid in the prosecution of the flogers, he said today.

ARRESTS IN NEGRO FLOGGING ASSURED WITHIN FEW DAYS

Authorities Believe Victim Coerced Into Selling Farm by Threats of Violence and Another Beating

PURCHASER FORMERLY CYCLOPS OF KLAN UNIT

Five Held For Whipping Florence Woman To Be Arraigned in Lauderdale August 1

BIRMINGHAM, ALA., July 14.—(AP)—All members of the band of masked men which flogged Arthur Hitt, negro farmer, will be under arrest within a few days, county authorities said today, following an investigation into the affair which culminated in his transferring for a nominal sum a small tract of land which he did not wish to sell.

Authorities believe the negro, who was characterized as a "respectable land owner," was coerced into selling by threats of violence and through fear of a recurrence of the flogging.

W. J. Worthington of Birmingham, who purchased the land from Hitt, made a written statement today in which he said he "paid a fair price for the property," and that he "bought it after it was offered for sale by Hitt," Worthington, formerly was cyclops of a local Ku Klux Klan unit, said he "expected to be indicted by the grand jury" investigating the whipping of Hitt.

The tract of land, which authorities said was valued at $6,000 was transferred to Worthington for a consideration of $900, county deed transfers show.

Five persons, including two women were in custody at Florence, Ala., charged with complicity in the flogging of Mrs. Bertha A. Slay, 28, who was tied to a barrel and whipped after her husband and sister were tied in their beds. Mrs. Allen Butler, Mrs. Lucille Lindsay, Allen Butler, Charles Lindsay and Albert Lindsay were arrested last night when Mrs. Slay told authorities she recognized two of her assailants as women "by their long hair and small feet."

The five are to answer to the charges in the Lauderdale county court on August 1.

Several witnesses have been subpoenaed to appear before the Blount county grand jury which will convene next Monday to investigate the whipping of Jeff Calloway, 19-year-old Oneonta farm youth. Attorney General McCall of Alabama has announced that he would personally handle the prosecution of Calloway's assailant.

The flogging of Hugh McSweeney and Pearl Boggs several weeks ago, and of Eston Murchison last week also were being investigated by special state investigators, working in cooperation with county and local authorities.

RANDOLPH CITIZEN SAYS FLOGGINGS CAREFULLY PLANNED

F. M. Vann, Former Head of Roanoke Klavern, and Brother of Solicitor, Lays Outrages at Klan's Door

ALIBIS MADE SOLID IN ADVANCE OF BEATING

Orders For Whippings Came From High State Klan Official, He Alleges

BIRMINGHAM, ALA., July 22—Special To The Advertiser—Klan whippings in Alabama are carefully planned in advance and nothing is left to chance in providing an "abili" for the local Klavern in the community in which a person is flogged. This was revealed Friday by F. M. Vann, former exalted cyclops of the Roanoke klan. Mr. Vann is a brother of Solicitor Clyde Vann, of Randolph county.

According to Vann the system under which the whipping parties were organized about three years ago was that, first, reports of "immoral" conditions were made directly to the exalted cyclops of the local klavern.

The local cyclops then reported to a "high state official of the klan" who, according to Vann, instructed the cyclops of the klavern nearest the scene of trouble to get in touch with the klavern leader.

The person or persons to be whipped were then "spotted." The visiting klan leaders were made familiar with all necessary details.

On the occasion of the actual flogging, Vann said, the local klansmen remainded at home, or established other alibis to account for their presence.

Suspicions, Vann declared, was thus averted from the local organization.

In some cases, Vann said, suspicion was thrown upon persons said to be using the klan regalia illegally, when it was disclosed that local klansmen where a whipping took place, were all accounted for.

Vann, in discussing whippings in Randolph county, declared that no floggings had taken place in the county while he served as cyclops. The present cyclops of the Roanoke klavern took office in March, 1926, he said.

Vann, who says he was "politiced" out of office of exalted cyclops of the Roanoke klavern because he would not sanction whippings, is now taking an active part in the attempt to stop floggings in Randolph county.

He said he had written Governor Graves requesting an investigation of the eight recent whippings in Randolph.

He also stated that Governor Graves had not answered his letter.

It is known, however, that W. K. McAdory, state law enforcement chief, was in Randolph county Friday. However, McAdory's mission was not known.

KU KLUX KLAN MOVES TO CAPTURE DEMOCRATIC MEET DELEGATES

Will Try Old Trick of Setting Up Straw Man and Knocking Him Down; Campaign Cry Will Be 'Down With Al Smith'; Graves To Support Klan, Report

By ATTICUS MULLIN

That James Esdale, grand dragon of the Ku Klux Klan, will attempt to capture the Alabama delegation to the democratic national convention next year, using the powerful influence of the Graves administration, has been common gossip in hotel lobbies of Montgomery for the last week.

Grand Titan Bert Thomas and many other prominent klansmen have been in Montgomery during the last two weeks and it is understood that at a conference held at the Gay-Teague hotel, at which several senators, members of the lower house and klan leaders were present, it was dediced that the fight for the next delegation will be started immediately after the legislature adjourns. Whether Mr Thomas actually attended could not be learned.

The strategy of the klan leaders will be the time honored one of setting up a straw man and knocking him down, so it is learned. The thundering cry will be raised "Down with Al Smith," and on that appeal it is expected that the people of Alabama will quickly forget the floggings which have been prevalent in the state since the first of the present year. Klan leaders will also raise the bogey cry that prohibition is in danger. This cry was raised when Alabamians went out after a delegation for Oscar Underwood, but had little effect them. Whether the klan can raise it and under such a blind gather in a delegation with Governor Graves at its head is not known.

No effort has been made so far towards corralling an Alabama delegation for any of the candidates for president so far as is known. It is known, however, that such men as Governor Graves, John D. McNeel and others in the administration, have been McAdoo men in the past. They would like to have a McAdoo delegation which would of course, at the same time be a klan delegation as McAdoo corralled all of the klan delegates finally at the New York convention.

The bogey man, Al Smith, against whom the klan will shout if political gossip is worth anything, has made no move to corral an Alabama delegation so far as is known and information is that he will not do so. Whether an effort will be made to corral the Alabama delegation by any other presidential candidate than Smith is not known as yet.

That James Esdale, grand dragon for Alabama, realizes that the klan as an order has suffered from the flogging activities of some of its members, is generally talked in Montgomery among klansmen. A victory next year wherein a klan delegation would be sent to the democratic national convention would make up for the backet which klansmen feel that the order has received.

START INQUIRIES INTO 13 ALABAMA FLOGGING CASES

Four Investigations Are Opened.

Birmingham, Ala., Aug. 12.—(AP)—Four new investigations into hooded floggings have been started in central Alabama by county and federal official as a result of whipping of thirteen persons within the last few weeks. Nine of the victims were residents of Talladega county. P. H. Debardeleben, a druggist, was ordered to sell his business and leave the county. Officials said W. B. Price, high school principal, had been flogged supposedly because he punished three small girls in his classes.

Taken from Mines.

Federal officers who are looking into the whipping of two young men in St. Clair county refused to divulge information regarding the case. The men were said to have been taken from the Margaret mines, strung up by their wrists, and severely beaten by masked men.

In Calhoun county, Will Rutledge, a Negro, told officers he was taken from his home and lashed by several masked men who accused him of bootlegging. Rutledge also said his assailants took $46 he had in his pockets.

Jury to Start Inquiry.

Meanwhile Jefferson county grand jury investigation into the whipping of Arthur Hunt, Negro, and Dan Mitchell, a commercial artist, was to be started on the return to Birmingham of Solicitor James Davis. In addition to investigating the two flogings, the jury was expected to hear testimony of James Esdale, grand dragon of the Ku Klux Klan in Alabama.

Solicitor Davis said the klan chief would be called to explain threats against the county prosecutor allegedly made because of Mr. Davis' part in the flogging investigation.

ALABAMA PUTS FLOGGERS IN PENITENTIARY

Institute Sweeping Investigations

Oneonta, Ala., Aug. 12.—Alabama is at last awaking to the realization that night riding and disrespect for the laws cannot live. This was made evident Thursday when Eugene Doss (white), was found guilty of assault and battery and kidnaping by a jury in connection with the flogging of Jeff Calloway (white), farm hand several weeks ago. Doss was sentenced to serve eight to ten years in the state penitentiary. After the jury rendered its first verdict, trial was immediately begun upon the case of L. A. Clayton (white), another of the seven men indicted for whipping the farmer.

Judge O. A. Steele in pronouncing sentence upon Doss said: "This trial strikes at the very root of the United States Constitution. When a man takes upon himself enforcement of man made laws without recourse to constituted authority he commits a grievous crime."

The Jeff Calloway flogging trials were ended Monday when the state and defense reached a compromise whereby the five white men remaining to be tried pleaded guilty and were sentenced to pay fines of $500 and serve six months in the penitentiary each.

Solicitor Jim Davis called a special session of the Jefferson county grand jury Wednesday to investigate Jefferson county floggings, especially the Arthur Hitt case, and to air the records of the Alabama Ku Klux Klan before the inquisitorial body. The jury will also act upon the flogging of an unnamed man alleged to have faced a kangaroo court and to have been found guilty of bootlegging, whipped and banished from Jefferson county. Attorney General McCall stated in reply to warnings that he "lay off" prosecuting floggings, said: "I am here at the direction of the governor of the state. I am not defending floggings. I am here to prosecute them until Hades freezes over .55 degrees C."

Georgia Probes Floggings.

Clarkesville, Ga., Aug. 12.—The alleged floggings of nine men and women in this section on the night of May 12, was revealed when the Habersham grand jury met here Tuesday, with more than 50 witnesses summoned to inaugurate what Solicitor McMillan termed "a sweeping investigation into reported activities of nightriders."

FIVE MEN ADMIT GUILT IN CALLOWAY FLOGGING

Sentences of Six Months and $500 Fines Are Imposed.

ATTORNEYS COMPROMISE

Two Other Men Already Convicted and Sentenced May Get Mitigated Penalties, Dependent Upon Actions.

ONEONTA, Ala., Aug. 8.—(AP)—The Jeff Calloway flogging trials were ended today when the state and defense reached a compromise whereby the five remaining men to be tried pleaded guilty and were sentenced to pay fines of $500 and serve six months in jail.

Dr. L. S. Fennell, Amos Covington, Peter Carlisle, Chester Clayton and Clifton Clayton all pleaded guilty to complicity in the flogging of Calloway, and were immediately sentenced. Fennell, however, received a suspended sentence.

Offers Compromise.

The agreement was reached after Attorney General Charlie C. McCall of Alabama, who personally directed the prosecution, offered to compromise with Horace Wilkinson, chief defense attorney.

The attorney general agreed to noll pros the kidnaping charges for which the men were indicted and substitute charges of inciting a riot.

Eugene Doss and L. A. Clayton, the first of the seven defendants to be tried last week, received prison sentences of eight to ten years in the state prison following their conviction on charges of kidnaping.

The attorney general refused to venture an opinion as to the effect today's action might have on the Doss and Clayton cases. Both men are at liberty on $5,000 bond following notice that they would appeal the verdict.

Judge Woodson J. Martin of the Sixteenth Alabama judicial circuit took the stand today, replacing Judge O. A. Steele, who is hearing cases in chancery court. Judge Steele pronounced sentences on Doss and Clayton.

FLOGGING MUST STOP.

With the final conviction of all of the seven floggers indicted in Alabama, two of whom drew sentences of from eight to ten years and five of whom admitted guilt, threw themselves upon the mercy of the court, and received lighter sentences, the state vindicated her good name.

It is also illuminating, as clearing up a question in dispute, that two of the floggers confessed they had gathered in the lodge rooms of a secret order and had there donned their robes and hoods in advance of the flogging.

The judge, solicitor and the jury are to be commended for the able and fair manner in which the cases were handled. The results of the trial will undoubtedly have a good effect in strengthening respect for the law and in breaking up night riding and mob "regulating" in Alabama.

In this connection it is regrettable that in some sections of Georgia flogging is said to be continuing. It is especially distressing that a number of cases have been reported from the fine and prosperous old county of Habersham. No county in the state has more splendid citizens and few have better schools or more culture. And yet the report is that among the victims of the night riders are several women. It is unthinkable.

The Habersham court is in session and that county should do as Stephens did, and vindicate her good name by getting to the bottom of the flogging crimes and by ascertaining, convicting and severely punishing the cowardly thugs.

SEEKS KLAN DELEGATION.

Order to Raise Cry Against Gov. Smith in Alabama.

Special to The New York Times.

MONTGOMERY, Ala., Aug. 9.—That James Esdale, Grand Dragon of the Ku Klux Klan, will attempt to capture the Alabama delegation to the Democratic National Convention next year, using the powerful influence of Governor Graves's Administration, is the gossip here.

The strategy of the Klan leaders will be that of setting up a straw man and knocking him down, according to report. The cry, "Down with Al Smith," will be raised in the hope that the people of the State will forget the floggings which have been prevalent in the State since the first of the year. Klan leaders will also raise the bogey cry that prohibition is in danger. Governor Graves, John D. McNeel and others in the Administration would like to have a McAdoo delegation which would of course, also be a Klan delegation. Klansmen feel such a delegation would offset recent flogging convictions that have weakened the organization's influence.

NEGRO YOUTH DIES AFTER FLOGGING BY UNMASKED GANG

Luman Greathouse Succumbs To Pneumonia Resulting From Unmerciful Beating, Physician Says

STATE MOVES TO RETURN EMORY COBB FOR TRIAL

Attorney General To Await Solicitors Request In Other Flogging Probes

LINDEN, ALA., Aug. 9.—Special to The Advertiser.—Luman Greathouse, negro youth, who was seized by three unmasked men at the Costello Lumber camp near here about a month ago and flogged, died as a result of the beating Saturday night, it became known today.

The negro's death was caused from an attack of traumatic pneumonia which he developed a few hours after the whipping. The youth remained unconscious for about ten days. His fever at one time reached 108 1-2, which Dr. Dr. W. L. Kimbrough declared was the highest temperature he had noted within his long practice. The whipping was the cause of his illness, the physician said.

Two weeks ago Dr. Kimbrough reported that the youth had passed the crisis and that he was more hopeful of his recovery. A week later he suffered a relapse and died Saturday night. He was buried Sunday at Linden.

The youth was a native of Deatsville and white men who knew him declared that he was an inoffensive and hardworking boy.

The floggers charged him with stealing some automobile parts, it was reported.

No arrests have been made and no warrants issued. Solicitor Kimbrough said tonight that the matter was under investigation, but that he believed it to be to the best interests of the state that no statement be made at this time.

county slaying will be returned to Alabama in the next few days, unless he successfully fights extradition, Solicitor W. G. Raines, of the sixteenth judicial circuit, said Thursday.

Extradition papers, charging the negro with assault with intent to murder, left Governor Graves' office on Wednesday en route to Ohio, while Fred Cain, special investigator for the attorney general's office is in Cleveland waiting to serve them.

Cobb is wanted in Alabama to prosecute the murder charges lodged against Edgar Moses, Oneonta farmer, for which Moses was indicted following the slaying of Lilly Cobb, negro, more than a year and a half ago.

While efforts to return Cobb to Alabama are going forward, State Law Enforcement Officer John Coleman is gradually accumulating evidence which he says will bring 16 Blount county klansmen under indictment in connection with the masked raid in which the negro woman met her death.

Cobb's wife was killed while her children and Cobb looked on. A crowd of masked men came to the house and shot her down in the bedroom of her home.

Moses, who was shot in the hand during the raid, was indicted after authorities found that he was suffering from a gunshot wound of the hand which he was unable to account for satisfactorily. Cobb is alleged to have fired the shot which struck Moses.

Cobb Threatened

Following the raid, Cobb was threatened, he says, and fled the state taking refuge with relatives in Cleveland, where he was found by the Age-Herald.

Cobb has offered to return to help prosecute the case providing his expenses were furnished, charges against him dropped, and that he be furnished protection during his stay in the state.

The attorney general was able to promise all but immunity from charges. It is believed that they will not be pushed, and that the charge is merely a technical one to enable extradition. As a simple witness he could not be brought into the state.

Official action in flogging cases in three counties lulled Wednesday, while local, county and state officers endeavored to pile up evidence that would warrant grand jury action.

In Jefferson county three cases were to be probed as soon as Solicitor Jim Davis returned from an extended vacation in Canada. Davis was expected to be in the city Wednesday, but until late Wednesday afternoon, his whereabouts could not be learned.

TALLADEGA VIES WITH RANDOLPH IN LASH OUTRAGES

Ten Floggings and One Cross-Burning Brought to Light After Long Silence

CALHOUN JURY FAILS TO INDICT COMER SUSPECTS

Death Seals Inman's Case; Cotton Mill Superintendent is Whipped

BIRMINGHAM, ALA., Aug. 12. Special to The Advertiser.—Fifteen additional floggings and intimidation outrages in Alabama were uncovered Friday. All the victims were men and were whipped at night without privilege of self defense.

The victims are: The Triplett brothers, Randolph county; J. C. Griffin, Oxford; P. H. DeBardeleben, Sylacauga; Ben Purvis, Clawson Wyatt, M. C. Mathis, B. W. Price, cross burned; W. C. Malone, J. V. Jones, W. P. Germany, Snap Ragland, negro, Talladega county; two unidentified youths of St. Clair county and Will Rutledge, Calhoun county. Most of the circumstances surrounding the whippings were similar. The men were taken from their homes by the marauders and lashed. DeBardeleben, a young druggist, was instructed to leave the county after the whipping, and Price, principal of the interborough school, in front of whose home a cross was burned, was also told to leave the school.

Many of the victims appeared to be the victims of hate. However, a few were charged with specific crimes. None of the floggings have resulted in an arrest or conviction of any of the marauders and few have been the center of any investigation. However, the majority have been reported to authorities and are common knowledge in the vicinity in which they occurred.

The Calhoun county grand jury, investigating the Sim H. Comer flogging, failed to return an indictment in the case when it reported Friday to Judge R. B. Carr. However, the jurors condemned whippings in no uncertain terms saying "floggings cannot but arouse the indignation of every law-abiding citizen of Calhoun county, and we hope that this character of crime can soon be suppressed."

On the heels of the adjournment of the Calhoun county grand jury came the announcement from Solicitor L. H. Vann, of Randolph county that evidence against floggers in that county would be presented to a grand jury which will convene Monday. It is understood that Vann expects to gain several indictments against the whippers whose victims will approximate a dozen men and women.

It was also rumored in Birmingham Friday that the government was investigating the floggings of two St. Clair county youths, whipped several weeks ago. It is charged that the men who whipped them claimed that they were federal officers. This rumor could not be confirmed and was denied by the district attorney's office and other federal officials.

FIVE ARE GIVEN FINES IN ALABAMA FLOGGING CASE

Florence, Ala., Aug. 3.—In a trial that required little more than three hours five persons, four of them women, today were found guilty of flogging Mrs. Bertha A. Slay several weeks ago.

The verdict of Judge J. R. McClure in the Lauderdale County Court of Misdemeanors marked the first convictions that have come from a score of investigations into masked violence in Alabama.

Allen Butler and his wife, Maggie Butler, were found guilty of assault and battery and were fined $100 each. Albert Lindsay was fined $50 on the same charge and Lucile Lindsay and Charlie Lindsay were found guilty of conspiracy to commit a misdemeanor and fined $25 each.

The convictions, which came only three hours after the opening of the trial, followed closely a graphic description of the whipping by Mrs. Slay. The woman told how she was roused from sleep, led out of doors, bound to a barrel and whipped with sticks and an automobile fan belt, because she refused to "confess to a neighborhood scandal." She also pointed out the five defendants in the court room and identified them as her assailants.

While admitting the leniency of the court in dealing with the assailants of Mrs. Slay, County Solicitor Henry D. Jones and state officers who conducted an investigation into the flogging, hailed the convictions "as a moral victory."

NEW YORK HERALD

AUG 13 1927

13 Flogged in Alabama By Bands of Masked Men

Druggists, Farmers, School Principal and 2 Negroes Among Those Whipped

BIRMINGHAM, Ala., Aug. 12 (AP).—Officers of four Alabama counties today were investigating the flogging of thirteen persons.

In Talladega County the following persons have reported that they have been whipped by masked men:

P. H. Debardeleben, Sylacauga druggist, whipped and ordered to sell his business and leave the county; Ben Purvis, Clawson Wyatt, a farmer; M. O. Mathias, sixty yearfs old, farmer; B. W. Price, principal of the Winterborough Consolidated School; W. O. Malone, druggist; J. V. Jones, photographer; W. P. Germany, farmer, and "Snap" Ragland, Negro.

In Saint Clair County, Federal officers were investigating the whipping of two young men. Fred Inman, of Randolps County, was tied to a tree several months ago and severely whipped, officials said, "because he would not let his wife visit her relatives." In Calhoun County, Will Rutledge, Negro, was taken from his home in Morrisville and lashed after being accused of bootlegging.

FEAR OF THE LAW LIKE MAGIC

It is noteworthy that these appalling flogings by masked gangs in Alabama all seem to have occurred before the State took action against the floggers of Jeff Calloway and the woman at Florence. Apparently no whippings have occurred since. The same seems to be true in Georgia. Since the conviction of Airee at Toccoa, Ga., there have been no such atrocities, notwithstanding that up to that time floggers had been making the night hideous for numerous helpless men, women and children.

Ku Klux Klan - 1927

INFIRM CALHOUN MAN TAKEN FROM BED AND WHIPPED

L. P. Comer, 62, Appeals To Governor For Aid; Four Negroes Beaten in Crenshaw

WARRANT FOR LUVERNE CITIZEN IS SWORN OUT

Negro Says Charlie Helms in Crowd That Mobbed Him; Hitt Inquiry Delayed

Five new floggings, held under cover for a period of from two weeks to five months were brought to light in Alabama yesterday. One of the persons flogged was a white man, of Calhoun county, and the other four were negroes who were whipped in Crenshaw county.

The white man, L. P. Comer, 62, of Eastaboga, was beaten by a mob of masked men on April 26. He was taken from a sick bed, where he was stricken with pallagra, and severely beaten. Mr. Comer was under the care of physicians for weeks.

The negroes whipped in Crenshaw are: Alf Kendrick, of Luverne; Jack Payne and Robert McKinnon, who resides on the Irwin Russell plantation, east of Luverne, and Hillary Miller, 50, tenant on the farm of Henry Gibson.

Kendrick swore out a warrant in the county court of Crenshaw county, Tuesday, charging Charlie Helmes, of Luverne, with assault and battery, and carrying a concealed pistol.

Kendrick said that on the night of Sunday, July 24, a band of twelve men, wearing masks and robes, had assaulted him by striking him across the head with a pistol. The assault took place near a negro church several miles from Luverne.

Questioned Him

The men called him off and questioned him, charging him with buying liquor from a white man whom they were after. When he denied buying liquor, it was said, one of the men struck him.

Kendrick, it was said, stated that he recognized several other men in the mob but declined to give their names.

The case, which will not come before the grand jury, will be heard during the next term of the county court, in Luverne, which begins Monday, September 5.

The warrant has not yet been served upon Helmes, who is ill at his home. He has made no statement in connection with the case, it was said.

Payne and McKinnon were whipped early in March. The two negroes were on a lumber truck when a mob of about six masked and robed men halted them and dragged them from the machine. They were taken about three miles from the spot where they were seized and unmercifully flogged. The negroes told Solicitor Calvin Poole that they had been accused of immorality.

Known as Good Worker

Miller, who it was reported was known as a good worker and a harmless old negro, was inveigled from his home early in March. Two men, who were unmasked, went to his home and posed as federal officers who had come to place him under arrest for violation of the game laws, they said. The negro wanted to make bond, and after he had stepped from the door a half dozen men seized him and administered a cruel flogging. The negro was beaten almost unconscious. Two doctors were called to his bedside by his employer, and for a time it appeared that the old negro would not live.

Solicitor Calvin Poole was emphatic in his denunciation of lash rule. Several of the cases had been presented to the grand jury recently in the hope of obtaining indictments, but no true bills were returned. Other evidence found since the last grand jury will be presented in November, when the next grand jury assembles, the solicitor said.

"We are investigating the crimes and doing our level best to get evidence to indict them," Solicitor Poole said. Solicitor Poole stated that no floggings had been reported in Lowndes or Butler county, which is also in his circuit, within the past six months.

Governor Acts

Governor Bibb Graves, in answer to an inquiry Tuesday afternoon as to whether the executive department of the state had been notified of the report from Calhoun county, of the flogging of Z. H. Comer, aged 62 years, of near Eastaboga, by a band of 12 masked men, said that the report had been received and that the matter was being handled through the same channels as the other floggings that have been investigated by the state in the recent past.

The Calhoun county grand jury is now in session and it is expected that body will immediately take up an investigation of the attack on the aged citizen.

Alabama

CLOSING COBB PROBE

BIRMINGHAM, ALA., Aug. 9.—Special to The Advertiser.—While State Law Enforcement Officer John Coleman was finishing his investigation of the two-year-old raid on Emory Cobb, negro, at Oneonta, Tuesday, another state law enforcement officer was in Estaboga, inquiring into a flogging in which L. P. Comer, 62, was beaten by a mob of masked men on April 26.

Both officers were at work under orders of Governor Bibb Graves, who was requested to take a hand when local officers could not find evidence to convict.

Comer, the most recent flogging case to come to the attention of the authorities, was sick in bed from pellagra when he was removed from his home and beaten, he says.

Judge R. B. Carr of Calhoun county recently charged a grand jury, saying that "there were no floggings in Calhoun county."

Comer appealed to Gov. Graves for an investigation. Comer was so badly beaten he was under the care of a physician for weeks.

Work on the two-year-old slaying of Lilly Cobb, negro, of Oneonta, who was shot to death in her home when a mob fired into the room, was going forward rapidly, Officer Coleman said Tuesday. New evidence came into his hands Tuesday and the case will soon be ready for the grand jury, he said.

Jefferson county's investigations into the Hitt, Mitchell, Murchison and the "McDuff conspiracy" are held up until Solicitor Jim Davis returns from a vacation in Canada.

Arthur Hitt, negro, was taken from his home and whipped by a masked mob and forced to sell his homestead at a ridiculously low figure. Mitchell, a Greek artist, was whipped on a lonely spot on the road near his home in Clay, Ala. Murchison, a 17-year-old Bessemer boy, was taken from an automobile in the vicinity of Midfield and whipped by five masked men. In the McDuff case it was charged that there were 17 men who were contributing to a fund to be used to oust the police chief.

DENIES KNOWLEDGE OF ANY BUSINESS OF TARRANT CITY KLAN

Horace Wilkinson Charges Grand Jury 'Stacked' in Effort To Quash Flogging Indictments

DEFENDANT DENIES HE IS RULER OF TARRANT KLAVERN

Clash Between Attorney General and Reputed Grand Dragon Features Trial

ONEONTA, ALA., Aug. 1.—Attorney General Charlie C. McCall, chief prosecuting attorney in the trial of Eugene Doss, indicted on a charge of complicity in the flogging of Jeff Calloway several weeks ago, and James Esdale, reputed grand dragon of the Ku Klux Klan in Alabama, clashed during the afternoon when the latter was on the stand. Mr. Esdale had been served with a subpoena issued at the request of the prosecution, directing him to bring with him their records of the Tarrant City klavern, the klavaliers, and other documents relating to the Tarrant City klavern.

Questioned by the attorney general Mr. Esdale said he did not have the records, had no knowledge of their present whereabouts and could not produce them. Pinned down by the attorney general he admitted that the records had been sent to Atlanta, to the grand klygraph, shortly after June 30, the end of the second quarter of 1927.

At one stage of the questioning which extended over a period of an hour and a half, the attorney general charged Mr. Esdale with uttering a falsehood. The incident caused some excitement in the courtroom and everybody rose to their feet in order to better see what was going on. Judge Steele rapped for order and announced that if such a procedure was repeated he would order the room cleared.

This was a big day in Oneonta, the county seat of Blount county. A large section of the county was present. Three times the number of persons that could possibly squeeze into the courtroom were on hand. There were men, women and children of all ages and sizes, from the infant of a few weeks drawing at its milk bottle to the grizzly haired veterans of four score years plus. They came in cars, big and little, in buggies, on horseback and afoot, until the streets of the little city in the hills reminded one of circus days. Only the peanut and pink lemonade venders were absent.

Preliminaries

Judge Steele called court to order at 11 a. m. and without preliminaries called the case of the state of Alabama against Eugene Doss. Attorney General Charlie C. McCall was on hand to direct the prosecution and assisting him were Circuit Solicitor E. W. G. Rains, Assistant Circuit Solicitor G. W. Darden, Assistant Attorneys General John J. Haynes and Thomas E. Knight, Jr., and Special Assistant Prosecutor John T. Johnson, of Oneonta, employed by the attorney general.

P. A. Nash, of Oneonta; A. A. Griffith, of Cullman, and Horace C. Wilkinson and J. R. McElroy, of Birmingham, appeared for the defendant. Dr. L. S. Fennell, of Tarrant City, who is under indictment in connection with the Calloway flogging, was called to the stand when court reconvened at 1:30 p. m., for further questioning by Attorney General McCall, relative to his connection with the Tarrant City klavern.

"When questioned this morning you stated that you had never acted as exalted cyclops of the Tarrant City klavern," asked the attorney general.

"No, sir, can't say I did not."

"Did you say you were not exalted cyclops of the Tarrant City klavern now?"

Objection by the defense, overruled.

"I am not."

Witness Appeals to Court

"Have you ever been exalted cyclops of the Tarrant City klavern?"

"Have I no rights in this matter?" the witness asked, turning to the court.

The court: "Yes, unless your answer will involve you in this matter your rights are not interfered with."

Attorney General McCall explained that he understood the exalted cyclops is the keeper of the records of the klavern, and that his questions were intended to ascertain if this is true.

Dr. Fennell: "You have spoken in the klavern when I was exalted cyclops."

McCall: "Have you ever been exalted cyclops?"

"Yes."

"What length of time?"

"Last of May or first of June, 1926, to about May 1, or June 1, 1927."

"Did it not include June 30 this year?"

"No."

"Did you resign?"

"Yes."

"Was it accepted?"

"Yes."

"You are no longer exalted cyclops of the Tarrant City klavern? When did you cease to be?"

"Last of may, or first of June, this year."

"Who took your place?"

"I don't know."

"Is it not a fact that you were elected exalted cyclops about June 1, and got up and thanked the members for electing you?"

"No."

"Have you the records of the Tarrant City Klavern?"

"No."

Norton Lafon, formerly klygraph of the Oneonta klavern, was called to the stand by the prosecution. A subpoena duces tecum had been issued for him and he produced the roster of members of the Oneonta klavern. He said he did not have the minutes as he did not attend the last meeting, but said he would try to get them during the day. The roster was turned over to the clerk to keep until needed in the trial.

This concluded the state's efforts to bring into court the records of the Oneonta and Tarrant City Klaverns.

Grand Jury Staked Says Wilkinson.

Horace Wilkinson, of the defense filed a plea in abatement alleging that the grand jury had been "stacked" and illegally drawn. The plea alleged that "the grand jury was not drawn and empanelled as required by law.

but to the contrary was what is commonly called "stacked:" That is, to say, the cards containing the names of the jurors in attendance on court were not placed in a hat or box and the names indiscriminately drawn therefrom, but to the contrary, the names of the jurors attending court that week from which the grand jury was drawn which returned this indictment were all stacked and the first 18 names on the stack were selected by the judge presiding as the grand jury empanelled which returned the indictment in this case."

After considerable argument the court overruled the plea whereupon the defense moved to quash the indictment setting out 28 grounds each and every one of which it was alleged invalidated the indictment. Two of these alleged that the names of the witnesses testifying before the grand jury were not on the indictments. The court overruled the motion as to these two clauses.

The other 26 alleged in varying ways that the testimony offered before the grand jury was not sufficient to justify an indictment and that the only evidence before the grand jury was the "uncorroborated testimony of self-confessed accomplices to the crime."

Judge Wilkinson argued these points at length citing a number of authorities, but the court overruled the motion without hearing from the state.

Defense Calls McCall

Attorney General McCall for whom a subpoena duces tecum had been issued was called to the stand by the defense. He said the subpoena had not been served on him although the return of the sheriff of Montgomery county stated that it had.

Judge Wilkinson asked that the attorney general be sworn, and then, "Did you give an interview last Saturday in which you said the defense would get those records (transcript) of testimony before grand jury when the court said so?"

Objection by the state sustained.

"Have you in your possession, or available, the transcript of the grand jury proceedings?"

"Yes, in my possession."

"Did you attend the sessions of the grand jury that returned this indictment?"

"Yes, all sessions."

"Will you give the names of the witnesses who testified?"

"I don't remember all of them."

"Will you refer to the transcript, and give the names?"

Objection by the state sustained.

The court overruled the motion to quash the indictment.

The defense filed a demurrer to the indictment alleging that it set out the offenses charged in the alternative, and Judge Wilkinson argued at length the demurrer, and the court promptly overruled the demurrer.

Seventy-Four Witnesses Present.

This ended the pleadings and the defense asked that its witnesses be called. Of the 103 subpoenaed 74 answered to their names. Among those subpoenaed and who did not respond when their names were called are: Jim Davis, circuit solicitor for Jefferson county; former Circuit Judge W. E. Fort, Attorney F. D. McArthur, Congressman George Huddleston, Knox Conville, president of a Tarrant City bank; R. H. Wharton, president of the North Birmingham Trust and Savings Bank; C. B. Rogers president of the Security Trust and Savings Bank, North Birmingham, and Attorney General McCall.

James Esdale, reputed grand dragon of the Ku Klux Klan in Alabama, was called to the stand by the state. He had been served with a subpoena directing him to bring to court the records of the Tarrant City Klavern and the Klavaliers, a side organization attached to the klan, it was explained.

Raises Left Hand.

When told to raise his right and be sworn he caused a twitter of amusement to run through the court room by raising his left hand. He quickly corrected the error, however.

Attorney General McCall: "Are you the head state officer of the Ku Klux Klan, or grand dragon?"

Mr. Esdale: "I am supposed to be."

"You are known as the grand dragon?"

"That's what it's called. I am general counsel in Alabama for the Ku Klux Klan."

"How long?"

"Several years. You ought to know."

"Then you are the grand dragon?"

"You call me that."

"Have you any records of the klan?"

"No."

"Did you bring the records mentioned in the subpoena?"

"No."

"Who keeps them?"

"I don't know."

"Do you know who are the exalted cyclopses in Alabama?"

"No."

Knows Some Cyclops

"Do you mean to sit on that stand and swear you don't know who the exalted cyclopses in Alabama are?"

"I know some of them."

"You don't know the officers at Tarant City?"

"I know some of them."

"Is Dr. Fennell cyclops?"

"He is not."

"Is Cooper Green klygraph at Tarant City?"

"I don't know."

"Have you no records in your office by which you could tell who the officers are?"

"No."

"Did you ever have such a record?"

"Yes."

"How long ago?"

"Oh, about a month ago."

"Have they been burned?"

"No."

"Where are they?"

"In Atlanta in the possession of N. B. Forrest, grand klygraph."

"When were the records sent there?"

"They go at different times."

"When did the last records go?"

"I'd say two or three weeks ago."

Professes Ignorance

"Were the records of the Tarrant City klavern sent from your office?"

"I don't know. Don't recall."

"Don't you know who is head officer of the Tarrant City klavern?"

"Not now."

"Don't you know Dr. L. S. Fennell is cyclops?"

"He is not now."

"How do you know?"

"Don't you want to see the law enforced?"

"I want to see every man who is guilty punished."

"Whether he is a klansman or not?"

"That's got nothing to do with it."

"Then why will you not tell who is exalted cyclops of the Tarrant City klavern?"

"Because they have none."

"Since when? Who is acting cyclops?"

"Don't know. Don't think they have one now."

"Have you sent any one there? Didn't you send Bert Thomas to Oneonta to investigate this case?"

"I don't know whether I sent him there."

"What right have you to send Bert Thomas or any one else anywhere?"

"The same right I have to send you."

"You have no right to send me anywhere."

"I have sent you."

McCall Contradicts Esdale

"You have not sent me anywhere and when you state on the stand that you have you state a falsehood."

"What records did you send to Atlanta?"

"That is hard to say. Quarterly records."

"Anything relating to the Tarrant City klavern?"

"Yes."

"And that shows the names of the officers?"

"That's part of it."

"When was that? Since June 30?"

"About that time."

"Have you sent in the June 30 report?"

"Yes."

"Would it be difficult for you to ascertain the names of the officers of the Tarrant City klavern?"

"It might and it might not I met a man here today that I knew was a member of that klavern, though I do not know his name and asked him who was cyclops of the Tarrant City klavern. He said he didn't know."

"Have you a list of the klavaliers?"

"No."

Interested In All Klaverns.

"You are interested in the Tarrant City klavern, are you not?"

"Yes, and every other klavern in the state."

The defense objected to further questions along this line and was overruled by the court.

Questions by Mr. Knight: "Have you privately, or officially, as a member of the klan, directly, or indirectly had any part in the employment of counsel for the defendant?"

"No."

"Do you know anything about the employment of counsel?"

"I don't understand."

"Do you know of any action of a klavern, or a group of klaverns, or group or groups of klansmen employing counsel for the defendant?"

"I don't know. I know Judge Wilkinson represents them. I heard it three or four days ago."

"From whom did you hear it?"

"From Judge Wilkinson. Our offices adjoin."

"Do you know who employed him?"

"No. He said those who were indicted employed him."

"Did you have anything to do with his employment?"

Defense Objection Overruled.

By Mr. McCall: "Is it not a fact that all of these people under indictment have been to see you and told you they had nothing to do with the Calloway whipping?"

Objection by the defense overruled.

"No."

"You know these men?"

"Only one of them."

Have you been in the Tarrant City klavern since June 30, 1927?"

"No."

"Have you made an investigation of this matter, the Calloway whipping?"

"There was nothing for me to investigate."

"Have you received any letter about the matter?"

"What letter? The one I received from you?"

"You got a report from Bert Thomas, didn't you? Why did you send Bert Thomas to Oneonta?"

"The newspapers made so much about the case that I sent Bert Thomas up here, where it happened and where the people would know the facts."

"Have you no power to make them produce the records?"

"Yes."

"Among the methods mentioned by Mr. Esdale for obtaining records was the revoking of a charter for refusal.

When Mr. Esdale left the stand the defense announced "ready." Whereupon court at 5:30 p. m. adjourned until 8:30 a. m., Tuesday.

Dr. L. A. Fennell, subpoenaed by the state as a witness in the case of Eugene Doss, who went on trial Monday as one of the seven defendants in the Jeff Calloway flogging case, came into court minus the records of the Tarrant City klavern. He had been summoned ducum tecum which would provide for his bringing into court records of the klan.

Assistant Attorney General J. J. Haynes, when Fennell was to be sworn in as a witness, asked if Fennell had brought the documents. Horance Wilkinson, attorney for the defense, told the court he was not the custodian of the documents.

At the request of Haynes, Fennell was sworn in as a witness. Wilkinson asked the court to instruct Fennell that he was under indictment and was not obligated to answer any questions that might incriminate him. The court so directed.

Haynes then began questioning Fennell as follows:

"Are you the exalted cyclops of the Tarrant City klavern?"

Wilkinson's objection was overruled.

"No."

"Who is the exalted cyclops of the Tarrant City klavern?"

"I do not know."

"Are you a member of the Tarrant City klavern?"

Defense objection overruled.

"Yes."

"Who is the exalted ruler?"

"I don't know."

Doesn't Remember

"When did you attend the last meeting of the Tarrant City klavern?"

"I don't know."

"How many weeks has it been since you attended the last meeting?"

"Several—three or four weeks."

"Who was the exalted cyclops then?"

"Clyde Copeland was acting cyclop."

"When was the exalted cyclops elected?"

"I was not at the meeting when the cyclops was elected. I came in afterward."

"Were you told who had been elected exalted cyclops?"

Objection overruled.

"Yes, I was elected."

"So you are exalted cyclops?"

"I am not! I have hardly attended a klavern in six months."

"Do you hold any office in the Tarrant City klavern?"

"No, and in no other klavern."

"Who is keeper of the records of the Tarrant City klavern?"

"I don't know."

Doesn't Know

"What officer is keeper of records?"

"The secretary, I suppose. The secretary is called the kligraph. But I don't know who is the kligraph. W. Cooper Green was."

"On the night you were told you had been elected exalted cyclops were you told who was elected kligraph?"

"No. I had instructed them not to elect me exalted cyclops and I immediately resigned."

By permission of the court, Attorney General McCall took up the examination of witnesses.

"You stated you were told you had been elected exalted cyclops?"

"Yes, sir."

"For what period?"

Objection overruled.

"I was just told."

He explained that the term for which he was elected began July 1, 1927, and was to last a year. The election took place during the latter part of May or the first of June.

Wilkinson Still Objects

"Were you exalted cyclops prior to July 1, 1927?"

Wilkinson objected, charging the question took unfair advantage of the witness, but the court overruled the objection.

"I have been exalted cyclops."

"Is it not a fact that you were exalted cyclops for the term beginning July 1, 1926, and ending June 30, 1927?"

"No. I was elected but immediately resigned."

In answer to another question Fennell said he resigned prior to the reputed Blount country trouble.

The questioning of Fennell had in view ascertaining who is in charge of the records of the Tarrant City klavern. Having obtained no satisfaction through Fennell, the state decided to call John Wade, reputed cyclops of the Oneonta klavern, immediately when court reconvened at 1:30 p. m.

50 Veniremen Qualified

Court adjourned at noon. Judge Steele announced that court would be held from 8:30 a. m. to 12 noon each day and from 1:30 until they decide to adjourn each afternoon. There will be no night session for the present, he said.

Fifty of the 65 veniremen qualified for jury duty. In organizing the jury, Judge Steele warned the prospective jurors not to allow anyone to talk to them. He said:

"If anyone attempts to talk to you about any case on trial here this week, say to him that a juror cannot speak of the case, and if he persists in insulting you—and it is an insult to the juror to be spoken to about a case on trial—take his name and report to me and I will see the insult is not repeated.

"A man who will talk to a juror about a case on trial has a bad case. You are here to enforce the law, and I do not mean that you must convict. If you are not satisfied beyond a reasonable doubt, you are enforcing the law by acquitting the accused. But if you are satisfied the defendant is guilty, you are enforcing the law when you convict him."

Ku Klux Klan - 1927

JURY HEARS KLAN MEMBERS NAMED IN FLOGGING CASE

Judge Gives Final Instructions as Trial Closes in Alabama Court.

Oneonta, Ala., August 3.—(AP)—Charging the jury to find the defendant guilty if they believed the evidence beyond a doubt or to return a verdict of not guilty if there was any reasonable doubt in their minds, Judge O. A. Steele gave the case of Eugene Doss, charged with the flogging of Jeff Calloway, to the jury late today. The case was submitted without argument by either side after the defense rested without calling a single witness to the stand.

The verdict will not be available before 8:30 tomorrow morning, although one is reached during the night, as Judge Steele instructed the sheriff to locate twelve men up for the night and to report them to the jury room at 8:30 a. m. Thursday.

Immediately after the case was given to the jury, the trial of Peter Carlisle, who with Doss and five others was indicted in connection with the flogging of Calloway, was set for 8:30 a. m. tomorrow.

End Comes Suddenly.

The end of the trial came suddenly and without warning, after two state witnesses had admitted on the stand that members of the band who flogged Calloway met in the Tarrant City klavern of the Ku Klux Klan, donned uniforms and motored to Oneonta, where they took Calloway from a church service and whipped him.

John Hughes, the first state witness called when court opened for the third day of the trial, testified that he had been one of the band of masked men who whipped Calloway. He said Dr. A. S. Fennell, who, with Doss, is one of the seven men under indictment in connection with the floggings, announced at a klan meeting that members had been invited to attend a service at Antioch Methodist church near Oneonta.

Several of them gathered on the night of the flogging. Hughes testified, dressed themselves in klan costumes and went to the church services, where several of the klansmen spoke to the assembled congregation from the pulpit.

Names Party Members.

Under questioning by Attorney General Charlie C. McCall, of Alabama, who is personally directing the prosecution of Doss, Hughes named several other members of the party.

All, he said, wore Ku Klux Klan costumes when Calloway was kidnaped from the church, taken into a dense woods and whipped with limbs of trees. Hughes testified that Doss was the driver of the automobile.

At a subsequent meeting of his klan unit the witness said Doss cautioned him to "keep his mouth shut about the trip to Antioch church."

Hughes created a sensation in the crowded little courtroom when he testified that at least fifty persons have threatened him with violence since he is alleged to have told the story of the flogging to Attorney General McCall prior to the trial.

One of the men, Hughes said, "put his finger to his lips and then drew his hand across his throat."

Oliver Tidwell, the state's star witness at the grand jury investigation into the flogging, followed Hughes on the stand and told virtually the same story as Hughes. He also admitted he was in the party that whipped Calloway "because he attended church while intoxicated."

Dr. Marvin Denton, the physician who examined Calloway the day after the flogging, described the bruises and welts on the youth's back.

James Esdale, grand dragon of the Ku Klux Klan in Alabama, who yesterday failed to appear in court after he had been subpenaed, was served with a writ of attachment and was present at today's session, although he was not called to the stand.

FLORIDA LASH TRIAL PROCEEDS.

Orlando, Fla., August 3.—(AP)—Trial of George Demerritt, A. F. Gilliam, E. F. Stevens and George Murdock, charged with kidnaping J. A. Johnson, local typewriter man on the morning of June 15, entered its second day in Orange criminal court of record this morning with the greater part of the time again being taken up in an effort to secure a jury.

The venire was exhausted at 11:30 o'clock with only five jurors accepted and court was recessed for lunch and another special venire called to report this afternoon.

Yesterday after the state had exhausted five challenges the defense attorney, A. T. Stuart, of Tampa, objected on grounds that the recent action of the legislature which permits more than five challenges did not become a law until 60 days after the closing of the session and that the required 60 days would not expire until August 5. The objection was overruled by Judge Tilden and the defense had the exception written in the record.

Stevens was to have been tried separately, but at the opening of court yesterday the state announced it would try the four jointly.

There were six defendants in the case. The other two, William Mathews and W. C. McCollum, were tried separately and acquitted.

FOUR MEN HELD IN TAMPA BEATING.

Clearwater, Fla., August 3.—(AP)—Three Tampa men and a Clearwater attorney were charged with assault and battery in connection with an alleged beating Monday night of Theodore Roberts, Clearwater.

Roberts charged in warrants issued today that Hiram McElroy, Sr., his son, Charles McElroy, and John Wise, of Tampa, and John C. Davant, a lawyer, of Clearwater, took him to a lonely spot about 6 miles from here and beat him and warned him to leave the city.

In a statement to a newspaper Roberts alleged the trouble grew out of his attentions to a girl to whom Wise also was a suitor.

U. S. ASKED TO SUPPRESS INJUSTICES

Constitutional Rights Of Race Citizens Violated By Klan's Action In Driving Them From Town

BIRMINGHAM, Ala., Aug. 10 — Declaring the constitution all rights of the Negro have been violated Solicitor Jim Davis, white, of Jefferson county, will seek federal entry into his investigation of recent Ku Klux Klan activities in this vicinity in which many colored Americans have been brutally mistreated.

Davis announced his intentions at the same time he said he found information of the flogging of Willie Richardson, July 12, and the frightening of his wife Laura, who lives near Ratridge's cross roads.

Richardson told deputies the floggers said they were beating him and his wife because a white man and woman had been spending nights at their cabin.

Richardson and his wife denied the charge. Both will testify before the grand jury.

The case which decided Davis to ask, if possible, federal investigation into Alabama Ku Klux Klan policies, was that of a Race man who was "tried" alleged before a Klan hall, banished from the county and escorted across the county line.

This is clearly a violation of the Federal constitution," Davis said.

Alabama

The solicitor withheld the name of the Race man in the case for fear that he would be attacked. The Race man will appear before the grand jury to testify in the case.

ALABAMA HITS BACK AT MASKED FLOGGERS; FINE 5

Convict 3 Men, 2 Women of Whipping Woman.

Florence, Ala., Aug. 1.—(AP)—Alabama struck back at its masked floggers today when Judge R. L. McClure of the Lauderdale County Court of Misdemeanors convicted three men and two women of participating in the recent flogging of Mrs. Bertha A. Slay.

Commit Misdemeanor.

Mr. and Mrs. Allen Butler were fined $100 each for assault and battery. Albert Lindsey was fined $50 on a similar charge and Lucille and Charlie Lindsey were assessed $25 each for conspiracy to commit a misdemeanor.

While admitting the leniency of the court in dealing with the assailants of Mrs. Slay, Henry D. Jones, county solicitor, and other state officers who investigated the case hailed the convictions as a "moral victory."

Tells of Experiences.

During the trial, which lasted only three hours, Mrs. Slay identified the defendants and told of her experiences at their hands. She said she was aroused from sleep, led out of doors, bound to a barrel and whipped with sticks and a fan belt from an automobile motor. Her sister, Miss Lulu Dodson, testified that she and her brother-in-law were tied to their beds by the masked party while it whipped Mrs Slay because she refused to confess to a "neighborhood scandal."

Long hair and small feet of the women led to their identification, Mrs. Slay testified.

Hunt Klan Records.

Oneonta, Ala., Aug. 1.—(AP)—Efforts of the state to obtain the records of the Tarrant City local of the Knights of the Ku Klux Klan marked the opening day of the trial of Eugene Dose, one of seven men under indictment on a charge of flogging Jeff Calloway, 19, for attending church while intoxicated.

Although more than 50 witnesses had been subpoenaed most of the afternoon was taken up with examination of Dr. L. A. Fennell, one of the indicted men and reputed cyclops of the Tarrant City, Ala., local. He testified that although he had been elected cyclops he resigned immediately. He also denied having any knowledge of the klan records and membership lists.

STATE SENDS AGENT TO INTERVIEW COBB ON WIFE'S MURDER

Fred Cain, Law Enforcement Officer, Will Try To Get Evidence From Negro To Bolster Moses Case

JEFFERSON PROSECUTOR CONTINUES HITT PROBE

Ignore Threats In Connection With Flogging To Force Sale Of Real Estate

BIRMINGHAM, ALA., July 27. —Special to The Advertiser.—As the first step of the state to try Edgar Moses, charged with the murder of Lilly Cobb, wife of Emory Cobb, killed near Oneonta on April 25, by a member of a masked band, Fred Cain, state law enforcement officer left Montgomery Wednesday night for Cleveland to interview Cobb. Cobb was located in Cleveland by the Age-Herald after officers declared he could not be found.

Cain will endeavor to get from the negro information necessary to bolster the state's case against Moses. The latter was indicted in the spring of 1926, but the trial has never been set because Cobb, a necessary witness, exiled from Alabama by fear of the Ku Klux Klan, could not be located. It is probable that the trial will be set for early fall, it was learned Wednesday from W. G. Rains, solicitor of the sixteenth judicial circuit.

Lilly Cobb was killed when a masked band attempted to force entrance into the Cobb home. Cobb shot into the crowd of marauders. The same night Edgar Moses demanded surgical aid from an Oneonta doctor. He was shot in the left hand. On this evidence Moses was indicted by a Blount county grand jury on charges of murder. Cobb

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If the Ku Klux Klan stands for law and order, as it is supposed to, let it clear its own skirts of those recent outbursts of lawlessness that have terrorized some of the citizens. In that way will it come back (if it ever was) in public favor. Esdale has the opportunity and the means of accomplishing a great public service. Will he rise to the occasion?—Colbert County Reporter (Tuscumbia).

N. Y. WORLD

JUL 15 1927

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Ku Klux Klan - 1927

TIMES
TOLEDO, O.

AUG 5 1927

The Masked Mob In Alabama

OFFICIALS in Alabama who have been endeavoring to end the epidemic of flogging in that state are receiving threatening notes. Of course, they are anonymous.

Instead of intimidating the authorities, the threats have aroused the government to more decisive action and the public to more vehement insistence upon prosecutions. The public recognizes the inconsistency of the lawless mob which, under the specious pretext of "law enforcement," takes the law into its own hands and then warns constituted authority it must not enforce the laws and the constitutional provisions guaranteeing trial by jury.

Warnings were sent to the county prosecutor at Birmingham. Members of the klan are charged with sending them. As a result, leaders of that organization have been ordered to reveal the membership records and explain the threats.

Klansmen themselves may not have been guilty of intimidation or flogging, but their regalia has been the cloak under which these cowardly packs, operating by night, have abused and tortured defenseless women and old men and struck terror in the "Black Belt."

Newspapers in the South claim the klan regalia put to lawless uses has done more than the boll weevil to unsettle Negro labor in the farm districts of the South. The result is a quite general demand for legislation outlawing the mask, which seems a futile gesture. Is it likely that one who has so little respect for law and government that he resorts to mob violence would heed a law banning the mask?

Alabama

FORCES NEGRO TO SELL

The case reported recently through the press of the flogging of a Negro down in Alabama until he agreed to sell a great loss his valuable land, is just one of the many, many similiar cases which is dealt Negroes in different parts of the South, some not quite so bad while others may be classed worse.

Events, in the course of human affairs, take strange courses sometimes, as we all know. So in this case. We are wondering why, as is so often done, Arthur Hitt, the prosperous Negro farmer was not accused of an attack on some white woman and lynched or a pre-arranged altercation with some of the white men in the community and some supposed friend (white) fearing a mob advised him to flee for his life and send for his family later and a dozen other ways in which Negroes have been cheated out of their homes by whites who are too lazy to work and who depend upon the Klan's popular slogans "white supremacy" to push them through the world and as an entre to the world to come.

However, we are unusually interested in Arthur Hitts case because it looks to us like a clear case for the Federal Government to take a hand in. To force a man to sell his property under the threats of the pain of death, and at a price one sixteenth of its real value, certainly is a violation of property rights as guaranteed by the Federal Constitution.

Agents of the Department of Justice will do well to investigate this Alabama case, and we are quite sure that plenty evidence will be found to convict all the members of the Klu Klux Klan in that community.

GRAVES IS BEHIND ANTI-FLOGGING BILL

Says Ware Measure Provides Machinery For Obtaining Names of Attackers

Gov. Bibb Graves, when asked on Tuesday afternoon which if any of the so-called "anti-flogging" bills now before the legislature he favors, replied without hesitation: "I am for the Ware bill."

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Clanton Citizen Says Best Class Against Mob Rule

CLANTON, ALA., Aug. 9.—Special to The Advertiser.—The best class of people of Clanton do not approve of the use of whips in lieu of the fiery cross as a means of intimidation or otherwise. This statement was made by a well known business man of Clanton this morning in answer to a story in The Advertiser today in which it was stated that practically ninety per cent of the people of Clanton approve of the fiery cross as an instrument against lawlessness. A certain amount of resentment was expressed by business men and some officials over the story written by a staff correspondent of The Advertiser.

While there is a certain element in Clanton and surrounding section which makes use of intimidating means and might go so far as to use the "whip" this class by no means constitutes ninety per cent of the citizenry of the city, nor even anything like a majority, business men declared. They stated that this particular element is no more prevalent in Chilton county than in other counties in the state.

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Mrs. Lillie Hester Mitchell, wife of the victim of the latest flogging raid, is a business woman and a tax payer of the county. With her husband, she owns a beautiful home and other property valued at $10,000. She has been interested in welfare work for several years and conducts a small day nursery at her home in Clay for the ladies' aid society of her church.

Mrs. Mitchell told a representative of the Birmingham News Saturday afternoon that many persons in the community had objected to her marriage with Mitchell and a few weeks before a demonstration was made in front of her house. Just a few days prior to the event, she stated, overtures were made to her for the sale of some property she owned in the vicinity. However, the property was hers and not her husbands.

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Mitchell, she said, feared trouble to a certain extent. A few days before Mitchell was abducted two strangers came to their home and asked for gasoline, but Mitchell refused to leave the house.

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Mrs. Mitchell said that when her husband returned at midnight, he told her that a band of masked men had joined his abductors about 100 yards down the road. He was blindfolded and driven some distance down the road. He was led into a ravine and lashed. He was then ordered to take his daughter, Valicia, 11, a child by a former marriage, and leave immediately. He told Mrs. Mitchell that he was forced by the gang to agree to

his. But Mitchell consulted a lawyer instead.

It was through Valicia, who spent the day at the nursery run by Mrs. Mitchell that the pair first met and the association led to their marriage.

Mitchell, who is said to be 28, was not a naturalized citizen, according to his wife. The man's body even yet is a mass of bruises and sores.

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Ku Klux Klan - 1927

TIMES
TOLEDO, O.

AUG 5 1927

The Masked Mob In Alabama

OFFICIALS in Alabama who have been endeavoring to end the epidemic of flogging in that state are receiving threatening notes. Of course, they are anonymous.

Instead of intimidating the authorities, the threats have aroused the government to more decisive action and the public to more vehement insistence upon prosecutions. The public recognizes the inconsistency of the lawless mob which, under the specious pretext of "law enforcement," takes the law into its own hands and then warns constituted authority it must not enforce the laws and the constitutional provisions guaranteeing trial by jury.

Warnings were sent to the county prosecutor at Birmingham. Members of the klan are charged with sending them. As a result, leaders of that organization have been ordered to reveal the membership records and explain the threats.

Klansmen themselves may not have been guilty of intimidation or flogging, but their regalia has been the cloak under which these cowardly packs, operating by night, have abused and tortured defenseless women and old men and struck terror in the "Black Belt."

Newspapers in the South claim the klan regalia put to lawless uses has done more than the boll weevil to unsettle Negro labor in the farm districts of the South. The result is a quite general demand for legislation outlawing the mask, which seems a futile gesture. Is it likely that one who has so little respect for law and government that he resorts to mob violence would heed a law banning the mask?

Alabama

FORCES NEGRO TO SELL

The case reported recently through the press of the flogging of a Negro down in Alabama until he agreed to sell a great loss his valuable land, is just one of the many, many similiar cases which is dealt Negroes in different parts of the South, some not quite so bad while others may be classed worse.

Events, in the course of human affairs, take strange courses sometimes, as we all know. So in this case. We are wondering why, as is so often done, Arthur Hitt, the prosperous Negro farmer was not accused of an attack on some white woman and lynched or a pre-arranged altercation with some of the white men in the community and some supposed friend (white) fearing a mob advised him to flee for his life and send for his family later and a dozen other ways in which Negroes have been cheated out of their homes by whites who are too lazy to work and who depend upon the Klan's popular slogans "white supremacy" to push them through the world and as an entre to the world to come.

However, we are unusually interested in Arthur Hitts case because it looks to us like a clear case for the Federal Government to take a hand in. To force a man to sell his property under the threats of the pain of death, and at a price one sixteenth of its real value, certainly is a violation of property rights as guaranteed by the Federal Constitution.

Agents of the Department of Justice will do well to investigate this Alabama case, and we are quite sure that plenty evidence will be found to convict all the members of the Klu Klux Klan in that community.

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Mr. Holliman said he expected to see his client received justice.

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Mitchell, who is said to be 28, was stirred Jefferson county during past months, Solicitor Davis announced Saturday night on the eve of his departure for Toronto, Canada, where he will attend an Odd Fellows' convention.

The lawyer employed by Mitchell to look into his case took the matter up actively Saturday with Solicitor Davis, who in turn instructed his aides to make a thorough probe of the case.

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he court ordered it.

At Florence, Ala., five persons, two of them women, will be tried Monday on charges of whipping Mrs. Bertha A. Slay, who was bound to a barrel and flogged while her husband and sister were forcibly detained in their beds.

Two men said by Solicitor Davis, to be members of the Klan, have been ordered before a special Jefferson county grand jury Monday, August 8, to tell what they know about threats said to have been made to the county prosecutor for his part in pushing the inquiry into the flogging of Arthur Hitt, negro.

TEN UP IN KLAN SLAYING

Will Call A Special Grand Jury To Indict Alleged Slayers Of Mrs. L. Cobb In Alabama

Special to the St. Louis Argus.

ONEONTA, Ala., Aug. 10.—State law enforcement officers announced Monday that sufficient evidence to get indictments against the 16 white men who were members of the masked raiding party that lynched Mrs. Lilly Cobb, in her home on her farm in April, 1925 in the eyes of her husband and children, would be in hands the latter part of this week.

Klansman Held

Emory Cobb, husband of the slain woman who was recently located in Cleveland, O., where he fled in fear of his life following the fatal attack has promised to return to testify against the alleged murderers.

Edgar Moses, white, alleged Klansman, has been under indictment charging murder since the raid, when authorities found him shot in the hand after the incident. Cobb is said to have fired the shot that wounded Moses, when he exchanged shots with the hooded band during the raid.

To Call Special Body.

Judges, who preside over court in Oneonta, said they will call a special session of the grand jury to return indictments as soon as enough evidence is in hands of authorities.

Meanwhile, a special investigator is in Cleveland endeavoring to persuade Cobb to return to Alabama. Cobb offered to return provided he would be furnished with railroad fare together with immunity from any charges that might be docketed against him in connection with the raid plus protection against violence.

Would Aid.

Attorney General Chas. McCall was ready and willing to promise expenses and protection, but there was no law which would enable him to drop charge. He said, however, that any charges would not be pushed to their logical conclusions.

HITT TRIAL IS DELAYED

Case In Flogging Of Negro Is Delayed By Absence Of Prosecutor

(Special To St. Louis Argus)

BIRMINGHAM, Ala., Aug. 10—A grand jury investigation into the flogging of Arthur Hitt and Dan Mitchell, white, Clay, Ala., commercial artist, originally set for today, has been proposed several days because of the absence of the solicitor James Davis, of Jefferson County. Davis is on a tour of the north and is expected to return to Birmingham the latter part of the week.

Hitt was whipped when he refused to sell the farm on which he lived. Several days after he was flogged by a band of masked white men, he transferred his land for a sum said to be one-sixth of its value.

Mitchell, who is of foreign extraction, was flogged "because he married an American woman."

EIGHT WHIPPINGS THIS YEAR KEEP STATE FORCES BUSY

Jefferson Grand Jury To Oper Probe in Flogging of Negro and Youth Tuesday

With indictments standing against six men accused of flogging Jeff Calloway, Blount orphan, who will face trial on August 1, and charges against three men and two women pending for the whipping of Mrs. Bertha Slay, Florence woman, interest in flogging outrages will turn to Jefferson and Randolph counties this week.

In Jefferson county, where a grand jury recently indicted three men on charges of assaulting Pearl Boggs and his companion, the grand jury will reconvene Tuesday to resume inquiry into the flogging of Arthur Hitt, negro, who claims he was forced to sell his land by a masked mob, and Elston Murchison, who was taken from an automobile and whipped.

The reign of terror which has held a number of North Alabama counties in its grip appears by far greater in Randolph county. Since the pitiless spotlight of publicity has been turned upon the outrages, eight floggings by robed and hooded mobs have been uncovered in Randolph county.

In an effort to "clean up" Randolph county and again make that section a place where persons may sleep in their homes at night without fear of being forced by a hooded gang with a lash to "confess" to a crime of which they know nothing, a number of state law enforcement officers have been combing the county in search of evidence.

Within the past year, according to reports, the white figures moving like ghosts along the country roads, and holding their night "confessional" tribunals with a helpless victim writhing under a heavy lash, the county has become virtually a section under reign of "kangaroo courts" whose evidence is gossip and where the victim is convicted by his own confession forced at the end of a lash.

Randolph county has become almost a law unto itself and a majority of citizens are resentful at the interference of the state into its private whipping affairs, according to those who have investigated the situation.

A number of the more intelligent citizenship appear to be up in arms against the perpetrators of the outrages, the investigation has disclosed but a majority, while expressing disapproval of mob violence, nevertheless see no reason why any undue exercise should be taken in the interest of law and order.

If it is within the power of Solicitor Clyde Vann and Deputy Solicitor Parker, however, the gangs will be run to earth and be given the limit of the law, as both attorneys have made clear their intentions.

The investigation is proceeding "satisfactorily" Chief Walter K. McAdory of the law enforcement department said Saturday night. Chief McAdory declined to disclose the number of men he had on the scene, out said eight whippings were being thoroughly investigated. No arrests will be made at present but the cases will be submitted to the Randolph grand jury when it convenes in regular session on August 16.

WORLD

JUL 26 1927

13 FLOGGINGS STIR SOUTH

Investigations Under Way in Four Alabama Counties

BIRMINGHAM, Ala., Aug. 12 (A. P.) Four new investigations into hooded floggings have been started in Central Alabama by county and Federal officials as a result of whipping of thirteen persons within the last few weeks.

Nine of the victims of the masked mobs were residents of Talladega County. P. H. Debardeleben, a druggist, was ordered to sell his business and leave the county. Clawson Wyatt, M. C. Mathis and W. P. Germany, farmers, could give no reason for being whipped. Officials said W. B. Price, high school Principal, had been flogged supposedly because he punished three small girls in his classes. Ben Puravis, W. V. Malone, J. V. Jones and a Negro were the other victims.

Fred Inman of Randolph County, who was flogged last spring "because he refused to permit his wife to visit her relatives," has since died of typhoid fever, county officials said. A Grand Jury was to have made an investigation of his case. The other whipping took place in St. Clair and Jefferson Counties.

OBSERVER
CHARLOTTE, N. C.

JUL 13 1927

REMOVE THE MASK AND GOWN.

As an outgrowth of recent outrages in Alabama perpetrated by hooded and gowned mobs, there is a movement on foot to present to the Legislature a bill to bring about the unmasking of the Ku Klux Klan in that State. Such a bill ought to be passed in every State where hooded and robed bands have been active.

The recent activities of hooded and robed bands in both Alabama and Georgia have emphasized anew the menace of the mask and gown. At Toccoa, Ga., a school principal, who is a Sunday school leader, stands convicted of participation in the flogging of a white woman who was taken out and beaten unmercifully by a masked and gowned band. The conviction of the man Acree is encouraging to those everywhere who are opposed to American citizens or anybody else in this country being permitted to go out on the highways and elsewhere disguised so that their identity cannot be determined.

Just as long as hooded bands are permitted to go about at will, even though with no intention of permitting any disorder, there will be those who will take advantage of the hood and robe to commit crime. There are many people in every State, and it might be said in every community, who are restrained only by fear of the law. Remove the fear of the law and they are ready to commit any crime that vengeance or prejudice or impulse dictates. Give them the immunity which they feel is assured by the mask and robe and the restraint of the fear of the law is removed.

The only safe and sane course with respect to the mask and gown is to make it unlawful for anybody to wear them outside of their own private premises, and deprive members of the Ku Klux Klan and everybody else from the benefit of the disguise. As soon as the Klan unmasks and disrobes it will be relieved of all the blame for such crimes as those recently perpetrated by hooded and robed bands in Georgia and Florida. Likewise such crimes as those will become far less frequent.

ALABAMA KLAN LEADERS FACING GRAND JURY QU

Will Be Asked to Explain Alleged Threats.

Birmingham, Ala., July 28.—(AP)—James Esdale, grand dragon of the Alabama realm of the Ku Klux Klan, and officers of Birmingham units of the organization will be called before a special Jefferson county grand jury Aug. 9 to "lay bare membership records" and "explain threats against Solicitor Davis by two alleged members of the klan," the solicitor announced today.

Mr. Davis, who is county prosecutor, said the grand jury action will be the first effort ever made in Alabama to bare klan membership records.

The announcement by the county prosecutor disclosed the latest move in efforts of state and county authorities to clear up floggings in the state, and follows specifically threats against the solicitor "to lay off prosecution" in the case of Arthur Hitt, negro, who was said to have been whipped and frightened into disposing of a tract of valuable land for a small sum.

Mr. Davis said today he had again been threatened in the form of a postal card which bore the single word: "Stop."

Ku Klux Klan - 1927

ARTHUR HITT BRUTALLY BEATEN AND FORCED TO SELL HIS FINE SIXTY-ACRE TRACT OF LAND

HAD OWNED THE LAND FOR 35 YEARS. WAS SOLD FOR A MERE FRACTION OF ITS VALUE. CASE BEFORE THE GRAND JURY.

VICTIM BADLY SCARRED AND FRIGHTENED

SHERIFF HARTSFIELD AND SOLICITOR DAVIS START VIGOROUS INVESTIGATION. THIS WHIPPING IS WORST IN HISTORY, SAYS THE SHERIFF.

To be flogged almost to death—

That was a terrible fate to befall Arthur Hitt, respectable Negro and landowner of Palmer Station, but to lose his 60 acres of land for a mere fraction of its worth by reason of threats and intimidation is even worse.

The physical torture he could bear; the scars are healing somewhat, although he will carry some of them to his grave.

But his property is gone and he will never get it back unless the "white folks" help him, he feels.

It was like this:

Mr. Arthur Hitt, middle-aged, happy in his home life and following the quiet pursuits of a farmer, owned a piece of fine land. It touched the Louisville & Nashville Railroad and was very desirable from many points of view.

A man who owns property in the neighborhood came to him several weeks ago and offered $600 for the tract. Mr. Hitt did not take the idea seriously. The property was not for sale. The man has owned it for 35 years; he brought up his children there. It was home.

One night about four weeks ago—along about midnight when all was peaceful and Hitt's household was asleep after a hard day's work in the field—there were loud knocks upon his door and boisterous talk outside. Not suspecting foul play, he opened his door to the midnight prowlers and there stood before him in grotesque garb and mask a gang of howling men.

A blow on the head was the answer.

Strapped To Tree

The quiet farmer was hustled off into a flivver which took the lead and another car followed. He was taken seven miles from his home, strapped to a tree and flogged unmercifully. The wounds are knitting, but the scars and ugly welts remain to bear out his story. A livid gash on the forehead tells the tale of a terrible blow.

Three days after that Hitt signed his property away for $800!

And that's the story that Solicitor Jim Davis and Sheriff Chris Hartsfield were Wednesday investigating with all the vigor of their respective offices. The report of the matter came to them through J. F. Smith, 221 North Twenty-Second Street, who learned of the case through a visit at the Hitt farm. Hitt was training a dog for Mr. Smith and the latter went out to Hitt's place to see about his pet. He learned the story and took active hold of the matter. Mr. Smith had known Hitt for some time and that he was not only an honorable and upright man, but a good citizen in all respects. Mr. Smith is also taking steps to ascertain if the property may not be regained for Hitt because of the manner in which the deed is alleged to have been obtained.

Mr. Smith said the property was conservatively worth $6,000.

Sheriff Hartsfield said the matter was already under investigation by his office. He characterized the case as "as the very worst of all the flogging cases" that had been brought to the attention of his office.

Solicitor Davis ordered that Hitt be brought before the Grand Jury in stanter and that every effort be made to run down the floggers. The solicitor said the matter of reclaiming the property came properly on the civil side of the court, but both the solicitor and sheriff were looking into the question of threats and their source.

Hitt, when forced to move, took his personal effects and rented a house near Village Springs, where he now lives under constant fear of death. Dire threats were hurled at him, he says, and he was specifically told if he "ever told anything" he would be immediately killed. Mr. Smith wormed the story from the aged colored man with much difficulty. He seemed on the verge of prostration through actual fright.

N. Y. SUN

Alabama

AUG 9 1927

FLOGGING CASE INQUIRY PUT OFF

Alabama Negro Was Forced to Sell Land Cheaply.

KLAN DRAGON TO BE CALLED

Sixteen May Be Indicted in Death of Negro Woman in 1926.

BIRMINGHAM, Ala., Aug. 9 (A. P.).—A Grand Jury investigation of the flogging of Arthur Hitt, a negro, and Dan Mitchell, a commercial artist of Clay, Ala., originally set for to-day, has been postponed several days because of the absence of Solicitor James Davis of Jefferson county. Mr. Davis is on a tour of the North and is expected to return to Birmingham tomorrow.

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Mitchell, who is of foreign extraction, was flogged "because he married an American woman."

Before leaving Birmingham recently Mr. Davis said James Esdale, grand dragon of the Ku Klux Klan in Alabama, and other Klan officials, would be called before the Grand Jury to explain threats made to the county prosecutor "if he did not lay off" the flogging investigations.

Meanwhile at Oneonta, where the last of seven men were convicted yesterday for flogging Jeff Calloway, John Coleman, State law enforcement officer, announced he had sufficient evidence to indict sixteen men in connection with the death a year ago of Lilly Cobb, a negro woman, who was killed in an exchange of shots when a masked band raided her home.

Judge Woodson J. Martin, of the sixteenth Alabama judicial circuit, said he would call a special session of the Blount County Grand Jury to act on the evidence as soon as Emory Cobb, the husband who is living in Cleveland, Ohio, can be returned to Oneonta.

SOLICITOR DAVIS MOVES TO OBTAIN KLAN STATE ROSTER

Will Call Esdale Before Grand Jury in Effort To Establish Identity of Threat Originators

NEGRO YOUTH FLOGGED NEAR DEATH IN MARENGO

Lingers Between Life and Death For Two Weeks After Beating

While Solicitor Jim Davis, of Birmingham made ready to hail James Esdale, grand dragon of the Ku Klux Klan in Alabama before the grand jury to obtain the names of klansmen in the state, Thursday another flogging outrage committed within the past month came to light in Marengo county.

The whipping in Marengo occurred near Linden, about three weeks ago when three unmasked men seized Luman Greathouse, young negro, at a construction camp and gave him a beating which nearly cost him his life.

Three days after the whipping, Greathouse developed traumatic, (caused by injury), pneumonia, and for more than ten days was unconscious or semi-conscious.

According to Dr. W. L. Kimbrough, who treated the youth, his temperature reached 108 1-2, which Dr. Kimbrough said, was the highest temperature he had noted within his long practice. The boy is better and is expected to recover, he said.

The boy was accused of stealing some parts to an automobile, it was reported, but little could be learned of the affair. He was employed at the construction camp of M. Costella, a short distance from Linden. The negro is a native of Dadeville.

Solicitor W. R. Kimbrough of the seventeenth judicial circuit said last night that the affair had been reported to his office.

"I have the matter under investigation. That is all I care to say about it now," he said. "However, I want to say this for the information of all concerned. Hooded bands who terrorize, masked floggers and mobs who set upon persons and beat them will be suppressed wherever they appear in the seventeenth judicial circuit. Such outrages are a menace to civilization and if such practices are continued it will destroy our government."

Mr. Kimbrough said there had not been any hooded whippings in Marengo county within the past year, and that the citizenry of Marengo was of a type that would deplore night whippings.

With the locating of Emory Cobb Blount county negro who fled in terror after his wife had been killed by a masked gang, developments are expected to follow thick and fast, it Oneonta.

TO CALL ESDALE.

BIRMINGHAM, ALA., July 28.—(AP)—James Esdale, grand dragon of the Alabama realm of the Ku Klux Klan and officers of Birmingham units of the organization, will be called before a special Jefferson county grand jury Tuesday, August 9, to "lay bare membership records" and explain the threats against Solicitor Davis by two alleged members of the klan," the county prosecutor announced today.

The grand jury action will be the first efofrt ever made in Alabama to bare klan membership records, Solicitor Davis said.

The announcement by the county prosecutor is the latest move in efforts of state and county authorities to clear up floggings in the state, and follows specifically threats against the solicitor "to lay off prosecution" in the case of Arthur Hitt, negro, who was said to have been whipped and frightened into disposing of a tract of valuable land for a small sum.

Mr. Davis today announced he had again been threatened, in the form of a postal card, which bore the single word:

"Stop."

Awaits Report On Cobb

Attorney General Charlie C. McCall had not heard, up to a late hour Thursday afternoon from State Officer Fred Cain, who, under the direction of the attorney general, left Wednesday morning for Cleveland, Ohio, to bring back to Alabama, Emory Cobb, negro formerly of Blount county, who fled the state in fear of his life nearly two years ago, after his wife had been shot and killed by a band of masked and hooded marauders.

The whereabouts of Cobb remained a mystery until about a week ago when he was located in Cleveland. He is being returned to Alabama so that he may testify against Edgar Moses who is under indcitment for the slaying of Cobb's wife, Lillie Cobb. Protection, and payment of his expenses for the trip to and from Alabama and during his stay here, have been guaranteed by county and state authorities.

Attorney General McCall does not know just what day he will hear from Ofifcer Cain who is to bring Cobb back, unless the negro should think better of his promise to return to the state, and leave Cleveland before the officer can find him. The attorney general said, however, that he expects to have Cobb brought before the Blount circuit court some time next week. He would not state where Cobb will stay in Alabama pending his appearance before the court, remarking that his reason for not doing so is clear. Cobb, he added, will be given adequate protection at all times.

Despite the information emanating from Oneonta, that the case of Edgar Moses might not be tried until October, Attorney General McCall said he sees no reason why the case cannot be disposed of after the Blount circuit court has tried the cases of the seven men who have been indicted for the flogging of young Jeff Calloway of Blount county, which took place recently. While the Blount county authorities may have some good reason for postponing Moses' trial, Attorney General McCall said he has not heard of it. In any event, he made it plain, the matter of setting the date of trial of Moses is solely in the hands of the Blount circuit judge. The attorney general will produce Cobb, the negro, in court at Oneonta, during the coming week.

Whether Cobb will be held in jail for safe-keeping, pending the trial of Moses, the accused, will depend upon the wishes of Cobb himself, in the matter, it is understood, as there is no indictment pending against the negro in the Blount circuit court.

Cobb's wife was killed when the masked band returned the fire of Cobb, who shot at the marauders as they were attempting to invade his home.

Attorney General McCall, accompanied by Assistant Attorney General John J. Haynes will go to Birmingham, Saturday. From there they will proceed Sunday to Oneonta where the alleged floggers of Jeff Calloway will be placed on trial Monday morning.

ALABAMA KLAN IS DEFIANT AFTER FLOGGING NEGRO

Force Him To Sell Farm Worth $6,000 To Klan Leader For $600

Birmingham, Ala.—Arthur Hitt an aged Negro, who was recently whipped by Ku Kluxers until he sold his farm of sixty acres, worth easily $6,000, to L. W. Worthington, Klan leader, for $600, is living in abyolute squalor with his family. He had lived on his farm for thirty-five years, and all of his children were born there.

Hitt has always been respected by the white people for his industry and honesty, but his experience with the masked floggers has destroyed his faith in the white man and broken his spirit. He says he has lost all hope for the future.

County officers are now protecting Hitt and his family, and the county prosecutor has expressed a determination to force Worthington to return the farm to the colored man. But rumors are strongly current to the effect that the Kluxers have sent warnings to the officials that any attempt at investigation or punishment of the night riders will be met with quick vengeance. Special warning has been sent the prosecutor to this effect, is the report.

The courts are investigating the case, however, and while Hitt will not discuss the flogging with newspaper men who have visited him, he has promised to tell all he knows about his persecutors when the case comes to trial.

FLOGGERS WHIP THREE INCLUDING TWO WOMEN IN ALA. KLAN STRONGHOLD

Man Is Disrobed and Forced To Run Around Baseball Diamond While Band Beats Him

BIRMINGHAM, Ala., July 27. — Three more colored victims, two of them women, were added to the victims of the floggers who have terrorized four southern states during the past few months. Tom Garrett and two women were beaten at Roanoke, Ala, in Randolph, Ala., a section known to be a Klan stronghold.

Garrett was taken to a ball park where he was disrobed and made to run around the bases while masked men stood along the base lines and beat him with whips and clubs. He was seriously injured. The women were made to bear their backs and beaten unmercifully. The only cause given for the beatings was that the colored citizens had aroused the ire of the southerners through their independent attitude.

Record Set In Convictions In Ala. Whip Case

For First Time In State's History Convictions Are Returned In Masked Floggings

ONEONTA, Ala., Aug. 10—With the sentencing Monday of the last of the seven white men who participated in the recent flogging of Jefferson Calloway, a young white farmer, a precedent of far-reaching interest among residents of Alabama was set. Until this series of cases came to trial no one had been convicted in this state of charges growing out of masked floggings.

Monday five principals entered pleas of guilty to taking part in the whipping and were fined $500 each and sentenced to serve six months in jail.

The first of the cases growing out of the Calloway flogging was tried last week. It culminated in the sentencing of Eugene Doss and L. A. Clayton to terms of from eight to ten years each in the state penitentiary. The pair were the only persons found guilty of charges of kidnaping in Alabama in more than 20 years.

TWO CHURCH PAPERS ON A DOZEN FLOGGINGS IN ALABAMA

Elsewhere on this page we print a letter from Dr. L. L. Gwaltney, editor of The Alabama Baptist. It is a copy of a letter to The Birmingham News and is gladly printed in The Advertiser at Dr. Gwaltney's request, although the communication is hardly pertinent to anything that has appeared in the editorial columns of The Advertiser. It concerns itself mainly with Dr. Gwaltney's objections to the point of view of The Birmingham News regarding ethical and political questions. It does not discuss terroristic night-riding in Alabama, which is the only question at issue between The Advertiser and The Alabama Baptist.

In view of the fact that many of these lawless outbreaks by hooded gangsters have been done in the name of religion and morality, in view of the fact that The Alabama Baptist and the Alabama Christian Advocate, official organs of the two largest church bodies in Alabama, habitually devote a good deal of their editorial space to "law enforcement," and in view of the fact that these two journals are presumed to be the exponents of the highest ethical standards, The Advertiser one week ago expressed surprise that neither of them had discussed recent outbreaks of terrorism and sheer brutality in Alabama.

It has been 20 days since the first of a series of peculiarly abominable floggings came to light. In these 20 days these occurrences have been the chief news topic in Alabama; they have raised an issue of prime importance in the press, on the rostrum and in legislative chambers. It is quite the most important moral issue now before the people of Alabama.

But still no editorial comment on it in either the Alabama Baptist or the Alabama Christian Advocate, while some 10 or 12 secular newspapers in Alabama are equally silent—the others, however, being boldly outspoken.

In the Alabama Baptist of July 21, Dr. J. E. Dillard, pastor of the Southside Baptist church of Birmingham, who two weeks ago courageously denounced these lawless outbreaks from his pulpit, repeats his denunciation in the department to which he is a contributor. That is all that we find in the paper about the foremost moral question of the hour in Alabama, for, as we say, the editor is silent on his page.

But there is another vigorous thrust at the Pope in this week's issue.

All that we have heard from either of these editors is the letter of Dr. Gwaltney to The News and The Advertiser, which, as we have said, is hardly pertinent to the issue under notice.

Dr. Gwaltney does manage, quite incidentally, to characterize these floggings as "lawless and disreputable." The rest of his letter deals with extraneous questions with which The Advertiser is not concerned, although we cannot forbear to express regret that Dr. Gwaltney, while professing that he "devoutly prefers that all of these groups" (Klansmen, Jews, Catholics and others) should live in peace together, should feel called upon to make a gratuitous allusion to our Jewish citizens and to throw one of Tom Heflin's two-for-a-quarter gold bricks at the Knights of Columbus. Not a word about the mask.

We dare say that no Jew and no Knight of Columbus participated in the flogging by a masked gang of the helpless mother of four children, or that 60-year-old cripple, or that 17-year-old Jonesboro boy, or Arthur Hitt, the respected negro whose mineral lands were coveted by some of his white neighbors, nor either of the other eight victims of the lash whose piteous groans have touched the heart of all right-thinking people, whether Klan or anti-Klan; whether Protestant, Jew or Catholic—and whose shrieks in the stillness of the might have made all courageous Alabamans resolve that such terrorism must be stopped!

TWO MORE SOUGHT IN FLOGGING CASE

Oneonta, Ala., Aug. 5.—(AP)—Police tonight were searching for Ira Davis and A. [illegible] Glaze, implicated by witnesses in the trial of L. A. Clayton, as members of the masked band that flogged Jeff Calloway, Oneonta farm youth.

Warrants were issued for the arrest of the two men after Ray Hughes and Oliver Tidwell, star state witnesses, testified that they had seen Glaze and Davis in the party of men that kidnaped Calloway from the Antioch Methodist church in Oneonta the night the lad was whipped.

Clayton is the second of seven men indicted in connection with the flogging to be put on trial by Attorney General Charlie C. McCall, of Alabama, who personally is directing the prosecution of members of the whipping party.

Eugene Doss yesterday was sentenced to a penitentiary term of from eight to ten years following his conviction on a charge of kidnaping in connection with the flogging.

Witnesses at the trial of Clayton today substantiated testimony at the trial of Doss that members of the masked band that whipped Calloway met at the Tarrant City, Ala., klavern of the Ku Klux Klan, where they donned robes and hoods.

Oliver Tidwell, who admitted he was a member of the masked party, testified that Dr. L. S. Fennell, one of the seven men under indictment, was cyclops of the Tarrant City unit of the klan.

Tidwell also said Fennell was one of the men who spoke from the pulpit of the Antioch church at Oneonta before Calloway was whipped, and added that on that occasion Fennell had declared "his wife and daughter thought he was a grizzly bear." This term, officials explained, applied to Fennell's general reputation as "a bad man."

Tidwell testified that he was a member of the "Klaveliers," which he described as an inner circle of the klan. The Klaveliers, he said, acted as guards, guides and leaders in parades. Tidwell said he had taken part in drills on two different nights preceding the Calloway flogging.

The state is expected to rest its case early tomorrow morning. The defense rested the case of Doss without calling a single witness.

Ku Klux Klan - 1927

Alabama

BILL TO LEGALIZE MASK IS FAVORED IN SENATE SESSION

Refuses To Table Ware Bill Offered As Substitute For Measure to Outlaw Mask in Alabama

VOTE OF 16 TO 13 CHALKS UP VICTORY FOR KLAN

Williams Bill Will Be Revived Friday on Motion of Senator Teasley

The Ku Klux Klan won a victory Tuesday afternoon in the Alabama senate when Senator Ellis of Shelby forced over a substitute to the Williams' anti-masking and anti-flogging bill, greatly modifying the provisions of Senator Williams' measure, and authorizing masking by legally constituted secret and fraternal societies. The Ellis substitute was the same bill which had been introduced in the house last week by Representative Ware of Randolph, and is said to have been sponsored by Gov. Graves.

The vote by which the Williams bill was rejected and the Ellis substitute approved was 16 to 13, reached after an hour's debate between Senator Williams and Senator Ellis.

Despite the reverse of Tuesday, the Williams bill will be revived Friday morning by Senator Teasley, who will move a reconsideration of the vote by which the Ellis substitute was accepted. Six members of the senate, most of whom are said to favor the Williams measure, were not present when the test vote was recorded.

Vote on the motion of Senator Williams, to table the Ellis substitute, was as follows:

To table the Ellis substitute—Bonner, Bradford, Carlton, Craft, Ellis of Dallas, Jack, James, Mitchell, Oliver, Stokes, Teasley, Thomson, Williams—13.

Against tabling—Brown, Caffey, Cowan, Ellis of Shelby, Fite, Hall, Holmes, Jones, Justice, Loflin, Nixon, Nolen, Stanley, Walton, Warren and Young—16.

Action of the senate in accepting the Ellis substitute was considered one of the most important features of the most active day the senate has experienced during the summer session.

A bill was introduced in both houses, calling for a constitutional amendment election to determine whether the state shall issue school bonds to the extent of $20,000,000 for school buildings and other educational needs during the next few years. The senate bill was introduced by Senator Ellis of Shelby.

Ellis And Williams Debate.

Debate between Senator Ellis of Shelby and Williams, over the klan question came up over the introduction of the Ellis substitute.

"Before speaking I think it might be a good idea for the marshal to go out and corral all the boys and lock the senate doors," said Senator Ellis. "In reference to the question under consideration, I suppose that after so much has been said in the press about flogging, the judiciary committee, which gave the Williams bill a favorable report, did not give the bill as careful attention as should have been the case. Personally I was a member of that committee and know that scarcely more than a quorum were on hand when the bill was voted a favorable report.

"In dealing with this question, gentlemen, we are touching upon an issue upon which 75,000 to 100,000 men in Alabama are vitally interested. We must deal with the situation from a reasonable standpoint. We must pursue a course which will effect the desired end, rather than hastily pass a bill which would far overstep itself.

"Now in the first place, this problem confronts us: there has been any number of instances of flogging in Alabama. Some of the men who participated in these affairs were men who stood high in the communities in which they resided. Moreover, we must admit that those who were flogged had given definite provocation. While I wish to impress upon the senate that I do not advocate such affairs, I firmly believe that everyone who has been attacked has committed a moral offense.

"Thus, if we pass the Williams bill, placing a stringent punishment on floggers, we may believe we have accomplished the purpose we set out, but will the juries convict? Personally I believe there will be one or two men on every jury empaneled who will consider the high standing of some of the men who engaged in these affairs, who will realize the person attacked had given some cause for provocation, and who will not stand for conviction. That is certain to be the psychological effect of the Williams' bill, if it passes.

Believes Bill Unconstitutional.

"If the senate really wishes to cooperate with the situation, there should be no opposition to this substitute. Personally, I believe the Williams bill would be unconstitutional. It proposes to ban altogether the use of the mask, while the substitute places it directly under control of constituted authorities."

Senator Williams delivered a strong attack upon the argument made by Senator Ellis, and pointed out what he termed glaring defects in the substitute.

"I listened to the gentleman from Shelby, I listened intently, but in vain, to hear an expression of what he thought of men wearing masks to conceal their identity. He was as silent as a tombstone on this subject. The basic question which we are to consider is whether the legislature will prevent anything to exist, against which the best interests of the public.

"I cannot understand how in these late days of education and intelligence why we should want to go about among our neighbors with our faces covered by masks. Persons who don't want their identity known must be up to evil purposes.

"Why make it possible for this condition to obtain. This bill does not prohibit the wearing of regalia, it merely permits the use df sheets but not pillow cases. In Alabama the law requires that even a lowly Ford automobile must be identified by number, and yet, it is possible for anyone to go out and commit any crime behind a mask.

"I don't know what they call it. I believe the lodge room is known as the klavern. Well, the bill will not prevent members of any secret order from covering their faces inside the lodge rooms, but it does definitely prohibit them from appearing in public with their faces masked."

Attempt To Regulate Selves.

Referring to the Ware bill, Senator Williams said that the measure was doubtful in that the mask wearers wish to regulate themselves.

"Under the substitute, provision is made for appearance in public in a mask, when under the leadership of their officer or officers. Now, I ask you, how is the sheriff to distinguish the leader, if any, when all are masked?"

Senator Thompson of Jackson interrupted with a facetious suggestion that the leader wear a bell.

"The bill doesn't provide it," Senator Williams replied.

"Now there is another provision of the substitute, which demands attention. It says that before men can fare forth on parades and expeditions, they must obtain their robes and masks from the secretary of the lodge and a record kept of the names of the paraders, the record to be available for any grand jury, court or other law enforcement agency in case of a law violation. I submit gentlemen, that this makes a very good alibi for maskers, in that depredations could be committed by men who kept other robes at their own homes. Thus, if they intended to violate the law, the records of the order could be cited in their defense, as proof certain of their innocence, when as a matter of fact they would be guilty.

"I say that this substitute has been very shrewdly drawn. It does not prevent flogging. For instance, I quote the following excerpt from section 3: "'That it shall be unlawful for any person while masked or disguised so that identification is prevented or made difficult, to abuse, whip or beat any person upon any accusation, real or pretended, etcetera.'

"If these floggers, with this law enacted, wished to prevent the unpleasantness of prosecution, all that would be necessary is to drag their victims out and whip them without making an accusation. No law would have been violated in such instances, according to the substitute.

Don't Want to be Prosecuted

"Stripped to the last analysis, gentlemen, the great trouble is that the original bill unmasks those who rove over the state masked, who commit crimes and don't want to be prosecuted for a felony. The bill does not disturb the honest, law abiding citizen, regardless of whether he is a member of the klan or any other organization. I therefore move that the Ellis substitute be laid upon the table."

Senator Ellis, who, was again recognized, told the senate that he would at the proper time, offer an amendment to his substitute, which would strike out the defect in section 3 and would make the commission of any act of violence while masked a felony.

"The Ware bill, which I am introducing as a substitute, is an outgrowth of the efforts on the part of the thoughtful element of the klan, to cooperate and aid in law enforcement," said Senator Ellis. "It was written long before the present agitation in the press came about and it is clearly a serious, sincere effort to aid in upholding the law."

Senator Thompson asked Ellis when the bill had been introduced, and why it had not appeared earlier.

"I don't know just when the bill was introduced," Ellis replied, "but I do know that it has been before the house for some time."

"I'll answer the question of the gentleman from Jackson," said Senator Williams, a few moments later. "The bill, if it has been before the legislature for some time, certainly must have been masked.

"Gentlemen, I wish to say in conclusion that a pistol in the hands of a good man, never does an injury, but a weapon in the hands of an evil or irresponsible one, has made it necessary for the state to pass laws barring the carrying of a concealed weapon. There is no harm in a good man going masked, but because of the work of the bad man, it is necessary to prevent the use of a mask, just as it was necessary to outlaw the pistol.

Good Will Endure

"Let us not temporize on this question. If we unmask the klan, the good in the order will endure."

The test vote on the issue came immediately after Senator Williams closed the debate. Subsequently, the senate adopted the Ellis substitute. Senator Teasley, during the final roll call, purposely changed his vote and announced his intention of moving a reconsideration on the next legislative day. Immediately after the vote for final adoption of the Ellis substitute, 19 to 10, had been announced, Senator Ellis moved the bill be sent to the house without engrossment. Senator Teasley, however, called attention to the fact that he had expressed his intention of moving a reconsideration. A difficult parliamentary question over the Ellis motion was provoked, with Teasley, Ellis of Dallas and Senator Williams urging the chair to rule in favor of the Montgomery senator. Senator Ellis of Shelby, however, finally withdrew his motion and permitted Teasley to serve written notice of the pending motion on Friday. Senator Fite of Jefferson sought to table the Teasley motion, but was overruled by Lieut. Gov. Davis.

The galleries of the senate chamber were crowded during the debate over the klan question, and interest was at a high pitch when the bill was called up on the calendar. Shortly before the fight begun, it was reported that J. Gibb Mills, superintendent of the Alabama anti-saloon league, who was on the senate floor, was aiding in the fight against the Williams bill. Bert E. Thomas, great titan of the Alabama klan, was active in the capitol lobby before the bill came up.

A brief argument came up before the klan fight when the rules committee amended a resolution sent over from the house Friday, calling for a joint committee from the house and senate, to investigate and report to the two houses the actual amount of money to be forthcoming from the revenue bill. The rules committee amended the resolution by providing that the house and senate merely call upon the state tax commission for an estimate. The resolution, as amended, was adopted by a vote of 17 to 8.

Concurs in Appointments

Without discussion the senate concurred in the following executive appointments on the state banking board, W. E. Henley of Birmingham; S. C. King of Ensley; J. O. Jordan of Center and W. S. Garner of Ozark.

The following bills were introduced Tuesday afternoon:

By Senator Fite, altering and rearranging the boundary line of Tarrant City.

By Senate Fite, providing for and fixing of a franchise tax on all corporations in Alabama that pay privilege taxes on the basis of gross receipts. This bill will enable coal, iron and slag companies to deduct the cost of the recently imposed tonnage tax from the franchise or privilege tax.

By Senator Fite, amending section 12 of the act creating and regulating the state bar association. The bill provides that communities can not levy privilege taxes against attorneys in excess of the amount charged by the state.

By Senator Holmes, authorizing the construction and maintenance of a toll bridge across Perdido bay.

By Senator Jackson, regulating the practice of accountancy in Alabama.

By Senator Jackson, vesting the Barbour county board of revenue with additional authority in reference to road building.

By Senator Teasley, amenidng sections of the code to provide that building and loan associations shall be placed under control of the state bank-

ing department.

By Senator Ellis of Dallas, to make further appropriation for the state board of health.

By Senator Ellis of Dallas, amending the act creating and establishing the inferior court of Dallas county.

By Senator Williams, appropriating the sum of $1,000 for the relief of Frank Rogers, who lost an eye while serving as a state convict.

By Senator Williams, fixing the salaries of the judge and solicitor of the law and equity court of Franklin.

By Senator Craft, two measures providing for constitutional amendments to levy a tax of one-tenth of one per cent for school purposes in Mobile county.

By Senator Craft, to create a sea wall district in Mobile.

DEATH BLOW DEALT ANTI-MASK BILL FOR BOTH HOUSES

House Committee Votes Favorably on Goodwyn Measure and Reconsiders Action Next Day

Anti-masking and anti-flogging legislation Thursday was administered death blows by the judiciary committees of the house and senate.

In the house, the committee reversed itself completely Thursday morning, voting to postpone consideration of the Goodwyn measure until after the forty-sixth legislative day after having voted Wednesday night to report the bill favorably. As the matter now stands, the Goodwyn bill is dead, as it is impossible to pass any bill through both houses after the forty-fifth legislative day.

The senate judiciary committee did not take an antagonistic position against anti-masking and flogging measures, but acted largely at the request of Senator Travis Williams, who asked that the Ellis-Ware substitute to his original anti-flogging bill, be killed.

Senator Williams said in committee meeting that efforts to reach a compromise with Senator L. H. Ellis of Shelby on a bill which would be satisfactory to both factions of the senate, had met with complete failure.

"Gentlemen, Senator Ellis and I agreed to recall the original bill and the pending substitute, known as the Ellis-Ware substitute, in the belief that we could reach an agreement on a bill which would really have teeth," said Senator Williams. "We have, unfortunately, failed to agree on the essential points involved. According to our preliminary agreement, it was understood that in event we could not reach an agreement the entire matter would be killed in committee. I feel bound by this promise, and I therefore ask the committee to make an adverse report to the bill and substitute."

Discuss Louisiana Law.

Although several members of the judiciary committee discussed the Louisiana anti-masking law, informally, as a measure which should be enacted in this state, no action was taken other than the vote to postpone the measure. Judiciary committee members were under the impression that the Goodwyn bill would be reported favorably, Friday, and had not therefore learned of the reversal and subsequent elimination measure, in the house, at the time the Ware-Ellis measure was postponed.

Action of the house judiciary committee in rejecting the Goodwyn bill, after having approved it by a vote of 8 to 5, the previous night, deweloped unexpectedly in the committee Thursday morning. George Frey, of Birmingham, a law partner of James Esdale, grand dragon of the Alabama realm of the Ku Klux Klan, made the motions to reconsider the vote of Wednesday night, and to postpone the bill until the forty-sixth legislative day. The bill was carried over by a vote of 10 to 9.

Colonel Alf Tunstall of Hale, erstwhile majority leader of the house of representatives, who was defeated by the Tompkins forces in the house on the revenue bill, voted with his former foe, as did former Speaker Hugh D. Merrill, in defeating the Goodwyn bill.

No addresses were made either for or against the Frey motions. The vote was as follows:

To postpone until after the forty-sixth legislative day: Lee, Baldwin, Carter, Cockrell, Denson, Frey, Jeter, Merrill, Smith, Smith Tompkins and Tunstall.

Against: Chairman Simpson Goodwyn, Grove, Harwood, Rogers, of Mobile, St. John, Waddell, Ward of Geneva and Winn.

Representative Fite, Luck, Morrow, Starnes and Wallace, members of the committee, were not present.

The only move left to proponents of the Goodwyn bill is that of offering a motion requiring the committee to render a report. A majority of the quorum present, is necessary to force a report from the committee. In event an adverse report is returned, a majority of the entire house membership will be necessary to take the bill from the adverse calendar.

Fifty-three bills were considered by the senate judiciary comittee, of which 29 were voted favorable reports and 24 adverse. The senate finance and taxation committee cleared its calendar of a corresponding number of measures. The revision of laws acted on a small number of bills, as did the committee on fish, game and fisheries.

Most of the bills adversed by the senate judiciary committee were measures written by Attorney General Charles C. McCall, and sponsored in the upper house by Senator Edgar

LET EDITORS SQUAWK SAYS KLAN DRAGON IN OFFICIAL STATEMENT

Lead Editorial Sent to Klaverns Says 'Nobody Believes Wild Yarns' Papers Printing; Urges Klan to Get List of Members Who Skipped With Robes

BIRMINGHAM, ALA., July 29.—Special to The Advertiser.—Alabama Klansmen have been advised and instructed by their grand dragon, in his official document for August, just released, as to his reaction to publicity given to the Ku Klux Klan.

The document leads with an editorial "Let 'Em Squawk," which is an attempted analysis of the newspapers' attitude. Directly following it is another, "Law Violators," which charges that some men after quitting the Klan took with them their robes and that these men should "be in jail instead of in the klan."

The "Official Document" is printed on yellow paper. It is headed, "Office of the Grand Dragon, Knights of the Ku Klux Klan, Realm of Alabama, Official Document." Under the date line is this notation: "Klansmen, attention: This document is a personal communication from the grand dragon of the realm of Alabama to each individual klansman of the realm. This is a confidential communication and is not to be given to aliens. Your kligrapp always has a copy for you, so ask for it."

The contents of "Let 'Em Squawk" follow:

"Some wild, raging newspaper editors are throwing a lot of good printers' ink to the wind these days. They are suffering from a nightmare of the robe and mask. No newspaper editor would dare during these trying times to sleep between sheets any more. I must be a pretty rough job sleeping between wool blankets these hot summer nights. But such is life. And just think the poor boys can't even use a pillow case any more. Just suppose one of those "40 quart" boys should wake up in the glare of the moonlight and see a sheet and a pillow case on his bed that he has been writing about—ain't it awful, Mabel?

"Let 'em write and let 'em howl—nobody believes the wild yarns they are flaunting the people in the face with every day. They don't believe the tales themselves, but they think it is 'big stuff' and should make an easy seller for the paper. That's our motto 'Not for self, but for others.' The existence of the Ku Klux Klan furnishes a means for a lot of hicks to make a living running a newspaper, who would otherwise have to get out and toil for an honest living, like all honest people do. But we will stand by our motto, 'Not for self, but for others.'

"When all of the smoke of battle has cleared away and the newspaper editors have worn off their Ku Klux nightmare, when they have taken an inventory of their stock in trade they will find that they are still surrounded by the same gang of leaches and parasites and not one decent man has joined their ranks. That their band wagon will still be loaded down with the same variety of crooks that it always has and they will go merrily howling on their way looking for new fields to exploit and new suckers to grab their bait, to fatten their coffers with the glittering gold. So howl on boys while the howling is good."

The contents of "Law Violators" follows:

"The Knights of the Ku Klux Klan, like all other noble institutions, gets men in its ranks who are unqualified and some of whom should be in jail instead of in the klan. This class of men procured for themselves a robe and helmet and on their quitting the klan they fraudulently took their robes from the robe room.

SYMPATHY, INDIFFERENCE OR FEAR?

Every apologist for floggings in Alabama who has betrayed his sympathies by evasive, insincere comment, will accept the following excerpt from an editorial in The Fayette Banner as happily expressing his views:

Our large daily newspapers are doing a great injury to our state on the outside, by making glaring assertions that Alabama is under the spell of hooded floggers and law-defiers when nothing is further from the truth. Just because a "poor little orphan, 19 years old and full of booze and trying to bulldoze a whole community which was worshipping in its country church, was taken up and whipped for his insolence; Alabama is pictured as a state to be avoided. The boy should have been turned over to the proper authorities, there is no disputing that fact, but this is not an excuse for all these scare-heads that are doing Alabama more injustice than all the floggings ever administered in all the state's history.

Those editors and others who have written on the subject from the same viewpoint have said that nothing much has come to light about masked terrorism in Alabama—only that Jeff was stewed a church, and was flogged for being stewed and disorderly.

What sheer dishonesty! About a dozen people, including two women, are known to have been flogged within a few months. Only one was accused of disturbing public worship; only one was accused of drunkenness. But if all had been drunk; if all had disturbed public worship, how may right-thinking people justify a gang in concealing its faces—thus evading responsibility for its act—and laying violent hands upon the disturbers, when they could easily have turned these offenders over to the authorities? There isn't a court in Alabama that wouldn't make it hot for any man or woman who was shown to have disturbed public worship.

We have seen a half dozen flippant statements lately somewhat along the line of The Banner's editorial. Only a drunken nuisance was flogged! Such statements reflect no credit upon the editors and others who make them.

The truth is that some Alabamians who are accustomed to address the public are either in sympathy with rule by masked gangs, including their flogging escapades, or they are indifferent to the public welfare and private wrongs, or they fear the power of a hidden foe.

STANDARD

JUL 14 1927

FLOGGINGS IN THE SOUTH

Down in Georgia and Alabama men in robes and hoods are flogging white women and making brutal attacks on negroes.

Those two states should find a way to stop such outrages, offenses against law and order.

The most inexplicable feature of the mobbings is that those who set themselves up as moral guides claim they are doing their work in the name of morality.

There is much evidence to prove that the perpetrators of the floggings are criminals at heart. A negro was tied to a tree, and beaten. Then he was forced to sell his farm for a sum far below its accepted value.

Men who commit outrages of that kind are a menace to the peace of any community and they are in a class with the robber who takes property at the point of a gun.

The South should put an end to mobbings by insisting on respect being shown for its courts of law and all the orderly processes of justice.

Ku Klux Klan - 1927

Alabama.

THE PASSING OF THE KLAN ABOMINATION

The Ku Klux Klan originated as an aggregation of law ess men banded together just after the Civil War for the purpose of terrorizing, keeping under subjection to the white race, and regulating the conduct, labor and service of the lately emancipated slaves. In the early beginning of its hellish activities resort was not often made to revolting tortures, cruel outrages and murder as characterized it in its later history.

The excuse offered in those days for the existence of the Klan was, that so large a body of Negroes suddenly turned loose from slavery, where the hours of toil were from dawn until dark and where the lash and utter measure of toil was exacted by the stimulus of the lash, would become demoralized by their newly acquired freedom, would refuse to work and would rush pell mell into crime that could not be checked and destroy the civilization of the white man of the South.

As matter of fact when the truth of history is written it will be recorded that never in the history of the world were so large a number of slaves liberated whose conduct gave less concern to the authorities or to the white people of the communities where they were freed, whose willingness to return to work for those who had so immediately held them in slavery for whatever pay was offered which in the vast majority of cases amounted to only poor food and shelter, and who harbored less hatred and bitterness towards those for whom they were forced for two hundred years to toil without reward.

Never in the history of the world has it been recorded that a people similarly conditioned were so docile, so industrious, so forgiving, so ready to meet and adjust all differences in a spirit of conciliation and compromise.

And yet midnight bands of hooded and shrouded bands harrassed, terrified, outraged and murdered them until the strong arm of the government intervened, surpressed and destroyed the aggregations. And not alone did the Federal government move against the criminal aggregation, but State officials as well, one of the most noted instances being the work of Gen. Wm. H. Brawley, a prosecuting attorney of one of the judicial districts of South Carolina, himself a one-armed Confederate veteran and a Democrat, who relentlessly pursued the Ku Klux of his district in conjunction with the federal government until they disbanded.

The cry then and the excuses rendered for the brutalities, cruelties and murders then committed was that those crimes were committed not by members of the organization but by lawless persons who masqueraded and impersonated the Ku Klux. The same plaintive wail goes up now from the lawless 100 per cent Americans primarily reorganized to regulate and discipline Negroes in the South and control the politics of the States of that section.

Crimes of every description from mutilation and branding to murder have been rampant in many counties of Georgia, Alabama and many other States of the South for several years until the habit has carried its perpetrators over the color line. Not only are Negroes beaten, driven out and murdered, but white women are beaten and outraged, and white men who incur the displeasure of the Klan's members are visited with stripes, and sometimes killed.

Even Georgia has become weary of the Klan burden, a high school principal has been convicted of flogging a white woman; others are under indictment and it is foreshadowed that the legislature now in session will pass laws to regulate the self-appointed Klan regulators and forbid the wearing of masks or regalia which serve as a disguise outside of lodge rooms. Alabama is also awakened to the Klan iniquities and other Klan ridden States are sure to follow where the Klan turns from its original purpose of beating Negroes or administering such punishments as it feels should be administered when Negroes refuse to regard the will of any white man as law or shows too much independence of spirit because of education or prosperity.

In the North where the Klan was planted ostensibly, so far as the Southern Klan was concerned, to fight Catholicism and Jews, but primarily to aid in the submergence of the Negro, graft and corruption and some violence has sounded its death knell. With its Kleagles and Klagons constantly on the march to jail it has lost respectability, if it ever had any, and its prestige and power in politics has departed.

Almost dictating a presidential nominee in the Democratic convention three years ago, and claiming to have swung a number of States to the Republican nominee, in next year's conventions and the election thereafter the candidate charged with having the backing of Ku Klux will be foredoomed to defeat.

KLAN TITAN DENIES ALLEGED THREATS AGAINST SOLICITOR

Bert Thomas, in Letter to Davis Says Hitt Has Denied Klan Forced Him to Sell Land

FLORENCE AND ONEONTA TRIALS NEXT WEEK

Cain Expected to Return With Negro Who Fled State After Wife Killed

BIRMINGHAM, ALA., July 29. —Special to The Advertiser.— Flatly asserting that any announcement by Solicitor Jim Davis of threats, alleged to have been made by Bert E. Thomas were "unwarranted and only calculated to embarrass the Knights of the Ku Klux Klan," Thomas, great Titan of the Klan in Alabama, in a letter he said he mailed to Davis Friday morning, denied any attempt on his part to intimidate the solicitor or halt the Arthur Hitt flogging probe.

Whether Davis received the letter is not known, as the solicitor was at his office for only a few minutes Friday morning and could not be located after he left the courthouse. The letter was addressed to Davis, as solicitor of Jefferson county, and signed by Thomas. A carbon of it was given to The Age-Herald by a Klan leader at the request of Thomas.

Thomas called on Davis to remember exactly what happened in the office when the threats were alleged to have been made. He charged that Davis said, "Worthington (former Cyclops of the Avondale Klavern) will not be allowed to go before the grand jury." This statement was made by the solicitor after, according to Thomas, "he had been told that Worthington had valuable information that would help clear the Hitt case."

"Klan Not in Hitt Case"

Speaking directly of the incident Thomas in the letter said, "I told you Mr. Davis, that Arthur Hitt said he was not whipped by the Ku Klux Klan and I asked you to investigate the case thoroughly and said that I would do all I could to help you find the guilty parties. You said that the grand jury had already investigated the case and that you had the same information concerning the flogging that I had. I further asked you to do all in your power to get the right parties and repeated to you Hitt's story to me concerning the sale of the land, in which he exonerated Worthington from forcing him to sell it. I do not believe the negro told me a falsehood because his wife verified his statements. I also told you that if Mr. Worthington were brought before the grand jury that he could throw some light on the investigation and help you. You said that you would not have Worthington before your grand jury and that you were going to do all you could to put the man who whipped Arthur Hitt and made him sell his property, in jail."

Thomas Offers Aid

Thomas also offered to appear before the grand jury and declared that "I have not and never will try to stop any prosecution of lawlessness in Alabama." In a resume of the Hitt flogging, which Davis says was the cause of the negro selling his land for $900 to Worthington, Thomas declares the negro was whipped "about a still." In closing the letter Thomas reminded the solicitor of a long friendship and again asserted that he had not asked Davis to lay off the case. "I have, in the years that you have been solicitor, come to you as a friend with information and you gladly accepted it. I have also asked your advice on many things and you have gladly given it to me. I have never asked you to lay off of any case and do not intend to ask any other officer to do so," the

great Titan said.

Whether the letter will draw fire from Davis or will be ignored could not be learned. The Hitt case is expected to be presented to the grand jury August 9.

Two logging Trials Set for Next Week

On the eve of the Slay flogging trials at Florence and the Calloway case at Oneonta, which opens Monday, state law enforcement officers, headed by Attorney General McCall, concentrated in Birmingham Friday. In the meantime the other machinery of the law, especially that of Jefferson county moved in an effort to rid the state of rule by mask and lash.

Cain in Cleveland

Fred Cain, state law enforcement officer, sent to Cleveland Thursday by McCall to return Emory Cobb, state witness against Edgar Moses, charged with murder of Lilly Cobb, Emory's wife, located his man and will probably leave Cleveland Sunday for Alabama with his charge.

McDuff Case Searched

Three special investigators were placed at work on a reported attempt of a certain element to frame Chief of Police McDuff, which was brought to light Friday morning by The Age-Herald.

Solicitor Jim Davis has promised special grand jury action on this case August 9. Aside from these developments progress by the state against the hood lagged.

Klan "Trial" Reported

The announcement by Davis Friday, that he would seek federal aid in an attempt to learn identity of Klansmen alleged to have taken a negro before a Klan, and to have tried him and banished him from the county, apparently fell flat when it was learned that Davis had not communicated with the district attorney's office.

Charles Robinson, assistant district attorney, in charge of the office while J. B. Kennemer, district attorney, is out of the city, declared that the government did not have power to intervene in the probe as no federal code had been violated.

All action on the cases under investigation is expected to be withheld pending investigation by a special grand jury which will convene August 29.

TO URGE EARLY TRIAL

In a telegram received Friday, Attorney General Charlie C. McCall was informed by State Officer Fred Cain, who is now in Cleveland, that he expected to have an interview Friday morning with Emory Cobb, negro, relative to the return of Cobb to Alabama to testify against Edgar Moses, who is under indictment in Blount county in connection with the murder of Cobb's wife.

Lilly Cobb, wife of Emory Cobb was shot and killed by the fire of a band of masked and hooded marauders who sought to invade the home of herself and her husband during the hours of night, 15 months ago. Cobb shot at the hooded band and his wife fell dead when several shots were fired in return by the masked figures. Fearing for his life, Cobb fled the state and his whereabouts remained a mystery until he was located in Cleveland several weeks ago.

In another telegram received Friday, Attorney General McCall was advised by Cobb's attorney, that the attorney and Cobb had an appointment with Officer Cain at the Hotel Statler in Cleveland Friday morning, and that provided satisfactory arrangements could be made, Cobb would come to Alabama with the officer to appear against the man who is charged with the slaying Lilly Cobb.

The "satisfactory arrangements" referred to, is presumed to mean, arrangements for protection for Cobb while he is in Alabama and the payment of the expenses involved. These have already been guaranteed by state and county authorities. Attorney General McCall expects to produce Emory Cobb before the Blount county circuit court next week.

Accompanied by Assistant Attorneys General John J. Haynes and Thomas E. Knight, Jr., Attorney General McCall left late Friday for Birmingham. Remaining there through Saturday, the attorney general, Mr. Haynes and Mr. Knight, will proceed Sunday to Oneonta, where they will cooperate in the prosecution in the Blount county circuit court of the 7 persons who have been indicted for participation in the recent flogging of Jeff Calloway by a band of masked and hooded men. The trials of the 7 men under indictment will begin on Monday morning, August 1.

ARRESTS ARE MADE IN THREE COUNTIES WIDELY SEPARATED

Special Grand Jury at Oneonta Returns Seven Indictments For Flogging of Jeff Calloway

TIRED OF LYING, MEMBER CONFESSES; NAMES OTHERS

Attorney General Expresses Himself As 'Well Pleased' With Situation

BIRMINGHAM, ALA., July 19.—(AP)—Fifteen persons were under arrest in three widely separated counties of the state tonight, awaiting trial on charges of participating in masked floggings in Alabama.

A special Blount county grand jury, sitting at Oneonta, late this afternoon indicted seven persons in connection with the whipping on June 26 of Jeff Calloway, 19-year-old Oneonta farm youth. Six had been arrested within a few minutes after the action had been completed by the grand jury and the seventh was expected by officials to be in custody in a few hours.

Those arrested on charges of assault and battery and kidnaping were Eugene Dofs, L. E. Clayton, Chester Clayton, Cliston Clayton, Peter Carlisle, Dr. L. S. Finnell, all of Tarrant City, Ala., and one man whose identity was withheld pending his arrest.

Bond of $5,000 was set for each charge of kidnaping and $500 for the assault and battery charges. None of the six men arrested had furnished bonds tonight.

In Oneonta tonight, Attorney General Charlie C. McCall, of Alabama, who personally directed the grand jury investigation, expressed himself as "highly pleased" with its outcome and added that he would press for immediate trials for the men under arrest.

At Florence, Ala., five persons, including two women, were being held in the Lauderdale county jail awaiting trial August 1 on charges of whipping Mrs. Bertha A. Slay, who told officers she had been bound to a barrel and lashed while her husband and sister were forcibly restrained in their beds.

Three men, including Ransom Warren, warden of a county convict mining camp, were under arrest in Jefferson county charged with the flogging of Hugh McSweeney and Pearl Boggs near Birmingham several weeks ago.

Jefferson county authorities still were investigating the whipping of Arthur Hitt, negro, and Eston Murchison, 17-year-old Bessemer youth, and in Randolph county, Assistant Solicitor Burns Parker was gathering evidence in the flogging of eight persons to be presented to a grand jury there.

Attorney General McCall said tonight that every effort would be made to "bring participants in masked floggings to justice." State investigators have been detailed by Governor Bibb Graves to aid local authorities in investigations.

CALLOWAY, VICTIM OF FLOGGING MOB, GIVES TESTIMONY

Attorney General in Persona Charge of Investigation of Whipping of Orphan Near Church

M'CALL WILL FIGHT ANY ATTEMPT AT INTIMIDATION

Judge Woodson J. Martin in Forceful Charge, Urges Conviction of Guilty

ONEONTA, ALA., July 18.—Special to The Advertiser.—Five persons, three men and two women, were sent before the special Blount county grand jury Monday, by Attorney General Charles McCall, as the first step of the state to gain indictments against the floggers of Jeff Calloway, 19, Oneonta orphan, whipped "unmercifully" Sunday night, June 26, by a band of masked men.

Those going before the inquisitorial body which was impanelled at 11 a. m. Monday, by Judge Woodson J. Martin, were Jeff Calloway, the victim; Mrs. Sallie Mokes, of Jefferson county, Walter Creel, of Jefferson county, Mrs. A. Trammell, of Tarrant City and Tom Hughes, of Mount Pinson.

Both Attorney General McCall and W. G. Rains, solicitor of the sixth judicial circuit, in charge of the investigation, were highly pleased with the first day's work of the grand jury and strongly predicted that indictments would be returned.

Rains and McCall, are being aided in their work by John J. Haynes, of the attorney general's office, who said Monday afternoon that it was "highly probable" that the grand jury would receive all evidence in the case Tuesday.

How long after the grand jury receives the evidence, before a partial report will be made is not known however, action on the indictments is expected some time Wednesday. In the mean time Oneonta and Blount county is abuzzling. The city is filled with officers and witnesses. Hotel space is at a premium. More than 100 persons are expected to go before the body. Hints floating about the city that several witnesses had been threatened were heard on all sides. McCall and Potter Smith, state law enforcement officer, were placed in personal charge of Jeff Calloway. Other officers were also instructed to keep "an open eye and ear" for any attempt to intimidate a witness.

As precautions against this alleged "witness threatening" Judge Martin in a special charge to the grand jury declared that attempts on the part of anyone trying to interfere with justice would meet with a contempt of court charge," and charged the jurors to "report immediately" any inkling of such attempts to him. He also scored perjury.

A crowded courtroom, jammed with 250 persons, heard Judge Martin deliver a forceful charge to the jury, "act without fear or favor. Bring the offenders to the bar of justice. Upon this rests the future happiness of this country, for in defiance of the laws of this county they, (referring to the band which whipped Calloway,) denied him right of trial and punished him without sanction of the law. This is mob violence and should not to be tolerated," the judge said in outlining the duty of the jurors.

Only three men endeavored to avoid serving on the jury. One was excused on account of deafness, another was too old and a third was refused exemption, when he claimed he could not "hear well."

Calloway, whose case the grand jury is investigating, was taken from in front of the Antioch church by a band of masked men, forced into an automobile, carried to Jefferson county, on the Clay-Pinson road, lashed to a tree and whipped, for no apparent reason.

The grand jurors are as follows: C. C. Gamble, farmer; Thomas Dunn, farmer; John W. Burnett, farmer; John Doyle, farmer; S. A. Anderson, merchant; M. M. Rucker, farmer E. L. Eller, farmer; W. A. Cuzzart farmer; O. R. Cornelius, farmer; A. R. Gulledge, farmer; J. M. Hamby farmer; J. H. Hudson, farmer; W. C. Blair, farmer; C. D. Starner, farmer I. C. Morris, farmer; W. Berl Brown, foreman, cashier of Blount County Bank; R. C. Adams, farmer and J. W. Holcombe, farmer.

FLOGGING OF NEGRO BEFORE JEFFERSON COUNTY JURY TODAY

Hitt Claims He Was Severely Beaten by Masked Gang Following Refusal To Sell Valuable Land

SCORE OF WITNESSES EXPECTED TO TESTIFY

One Hundred Subpoenas Prepared by State in Lashing of Youth in Oneonta

BIRMINGHAM, ALA., July 25—(AP)—More than a score of witnesses will appear tomorrow when a Jefferson county grand jury opens its inquiry into the flogging of Arthur Hitt, negro, who was said to have been beaten by a masked gang several weeks ago.

Hitt told county authorities that following his refusal to sell a valuable tract of land, he was taken from his home and severely flogged, and in fear of further whippings, he transferred his property for a sum alleged to have been one-sixth of its value.

Approximately 100 subpoenas are being prepared by the state for witnesses at the trial at Oneonta August 1, of seven men indicted by the Blount county grand jury last week for complicity in the flogging of Jeff Calloway, 19-year-old farm youth.

Ku Klux Klan - 1927

Alabama.

THE COMIC GYRATIONS OF 'FRAIL CAT EDITORS

I.

Every editor in Alabama who is afraid to tweak a hood-covered nose, and every editor who is in sympathy with the hood-winking boys who themselves tweak a few noses in the dark, has eased his conscience lately by throwing spitballs at "Grandma." Some of them are quite indignant at The Advertiser for having poked them in the ribs with a forked stick for running out on the forces of elemental decency in Alabama when recently the latter came face to face for battle on Little Round Top with the masked native Huns who had challenged the soldiers of civilization for a show-down. Instead of dropping their hats, rolling up their sleeves and pitching head-on into the fray on the side of civilization, these editors held back, giving various and sundry excuses.

Most of those who have held back said: "Naw, we ain't gonna fight. We ain't mad with anybody."

Others, in fact, most of those who declined to join in the melee, said: "Well now, we'd like nothing better than a good stand-up-and-hit fight; but we want to fight for prohibition fust. Maybe later on—don't know just when—we can help out a little in the fight on the covered gang."

Or this: "Hadn't we better have a few warm-up fights over dancing, cigarette-smoking, necking, mixed bathing and Sunday amusements, before risking our titles with those tough guys with the masks? What's all the hurry?"

This lack of spirit and audacity might have been pardoned by those who were doing battle with the gangsters. Surely it is the privilege of everyone to say when he will fight and for what he will fight. But it is less easy to forgive them for pulling on the suspenders of the combatants on the side of civilization, and even slyly tripping their feet and dashing sand in their eyes, and by every known means seeking to cripple and handicap them in the heat of battle. If they were not prepared to help the rest of us they might at least have had the grace to stand aloof and not help the other side. Those editors—there are a few—who boldly joined the other side and fought with it appear to much better advantage than, say, the hood-headed editor of The Evergreen Courant who in his current issue says:

> It's an awful pity the policy of The Advertiser can't be consistent in matters of law enforcement. To condemn the alleged floggings over the state in a strong yet ethical manner is entirely within the domain of a newspaper and it is proper that it should be done. But why raise such a howl about one instance of law violation and take occasion to condone and smooth over another? The Advertiser has filled its editorial page and a goodly portion of other pages for two weeks with all kinds of stories and propaganda about these alleged floggings. If Alabama has gotten a bit of unfavorable advertising from the situation, in a large way it must be laid at the hands of the Hanson papers.
>
> The pretext of The Advertiser for raising such a howl is to crystallize public opinion against floggings. Well, let us hope it has better luck than it has had in defeating prohibition laws.

In conclusion, The Courant declares: "This paper wants to state it is uncompromisingly against flogging expeditions, just as it is against mob violence, violating prohibition laws, murder, theft and many other numerous offenses. We have nothing but contempt for any such conduct. We will always condemn such violations, for any of our laws."

This statement lacks the force of sincerity and conviction, as anyone will see by reference to The Courant's apology for writing it, but it is a committal, nevertheless. Let us rejoice.

And The Andalusia Star which sometime ago printed a straightforward attack against concealed hoodlumism in Alabama, now makes amends to any of its hooded friends whom it may have previously offended by assailing those who are leading in the fight against barbarism, as follows:

> " . . . the wet press, in season and out of season, gives encouragement to liquor (law) violations, commends criminals for resisting and even shooting officers, as we have noted in at least one newspaper. Then when someone happens to violate a law which the same wet press happens to want to see enforced, these editors raise their hands in holy horror and cry out against lawlessness in Alabama' . . . To our way of thinking, a newspaper who winks at law violation in one instance and denounces law violation in some other form, by the very act proclaims its own inconsistency and insincerity."

That should put The Star back in the good graces of those whom it may have offended recently when it vigorously assailed the night-stalking cowards who had ganged and flogged a dozen or more helpless people.

II

We come, now, to two editorials published in the current numbers of The Alabama Christian Advocate and The Alabama Baptist. Both are written in reply to an editorial published in The Advertiser two weeks ago criticising those organs of the two most powerful churches in Alabama for their failure to measure up to their opportunity and duty in the face of the most important moral question of the hour in the State, and in reply to a similar editorial in The Birmingham News.

The Alabama Baptist says it is "astonished" at the implication in The Advertiser that its editor "condones" flogging. But there has been no such implication in The Advertiser. The Advertiser has made no implications regarding The Alabama Baptist. It has made the direct accusation that The Alabama Baptist looked on in silence while these floggings by masked bands were being aired, at the same time talking bravely and virtuously about lesser moral evils. The Advertiser does not believe that the editor of The Alabama Baptist "condones" floggings; but it now knows that the editor of The Alabama Baptist has no stomach for a fight on floggers and the spirit which animates floggers. That is the sole issue between The Advertiser and The Alabama Baptist—or, rather between the latter paper and that part of the public for which it is commissioned to speak. The rest of The Alabama Baptist's editorial is an extraneous defense of the right of the Klan to exist—a right which The Advertiser has never questioned, this newspaper having contented itself with condemning lawless elements in the Klan, being satisfied in its mind that the respectable element in the Klan is deeply chagrined at the outrages done by individual gangs of Klansmen—to a defense of religious freedom and to idle journalistic horseplay with the editors of The Advertiser and The Birmingham News.

The editor of The Alabama Christian Advocate devotes his broadside to a consideration of what he gratuitously assumes to be The Advertiser's ulterior motives in launching this war on hooded monsters. After disavowing any intention to question The Advertiser's motives, the editor of The Advocate proceeds in the same paragraph to do so nevertheless. It appears that The Advertiser is out to discredit Governor Graves and to help Al Smith, and then The Advocate goes on to make the following misstatement of fact:

> The Montgomery Advertiser . . . would try to make it appear that the persons who have been flogged have ben little saints—near-Gods worthy to be canonized by the church. We don't know any of them, but from reports they were menaces to their several communities. This, however, does not justify floggings. Floggings violate a principle of government that must not be allowed.

The Advertiser has never printed a line in its editorial columns suggesting that the victims of the savages who covered their faces and beat them half to death were exemplary citizens—with the exception of Arthur Hitt, negro, of whom it is said that he was a well-behaved, law-abiding man, his only offense being that he owned some valuable lands that some sorry white men coveted. And nothing has been brought forward to show that Emory Cobb, negro, whose wife was murdered by a hooded mob that had called at his home to whip either Cobb or his wife. We have not eulogized the virtues of other victims; we know nothing of their virtues or shortcomings; we have denounced the gangs that whipped them. We have emphasized the low character of men who would commit such outrages. We have deplored a public sentiment that would tolerate it, and reproached those statesmen, editors, preachers and all others who stood silently and weakly by in the storm that followed without raising their voices against such instances of man's inhumanity to man. We have arraigned statesmen, editors,

preachers and others, giving their names, dates and other details of their apostasy to civilization, for openly and publicly defending floggings. We have arraigned others who have equivocated and evaded, men who while professing to condemn with their lips yet betrayed a lack of moral indignation by the apologetic manner of their professions of disapproval.

III.

Now, a word about the "enforcement of all laws," a word about motives and a word about those who find fault with The Advertiser for having started the quarrel.

We should like to assure The Alabama Christian Advocate, The Alabama Baptist, The Andalusia Star, The Evergreen Courant and other newspapers, of which there are several, that think and speak as they do in regard to this question, that they are not responsible to The Advertiser for what they do or say. If they feel that they are, we gladly and voluntarily release them from any such responsibility, written or implied. They are solely accountable to their consciences and their constituencies. If their consciences and their constituencies are satsified with what they have done or failed to do in the face of the present situation in Alabama, they need not feel that they should go a step farther and seek to satisfy The Advertiser.

The Advertiser did not make the facts which Alabama editors have been discussing for almost a month. The Advertiser did not create straw victims of the Klan. The Advertiser has not caused anybody to be flogged. All that this newspaper has done was to dig into the facts, expose them and comment on them honestly, straightforwardly, vigorously and without any ulterior motives. The essential facts appear to be undisputed anywhere. The Advertiser has printed them as faithfully as it could and discussed them as intelligently as it could and with a patriotism, a love of honor and fair play and with a sincerity which no man will question who is as genuinely interested as The Advertiser is in putting down the rule of lash and hood, and re-establishing the processes of civilized government in Alabama.

The Advertiser is not on trial, and every attack on it in connection with its fight against mask-rule and beast-discipline is so much comfort and cheer to the gang we are too proud not to condemn and so much salve to the conscience of chicken-hearted publicists who fear to stand as near the firing line as The Advertiser is standing at this fateful hour in the history of Alabama.

Whoever introduces the political views of The Advertiser—for example, its views on prohibition—in connection with this discussion does so solely for the purpose of weakening the arm of The Advertiser in its fight against the hidden foes of law and elemental decency in this State, and not for the purpose of strengthening popular sentiment for the "enforcement of all laws."

To imply, as some of these faint-hearted editors do, that the sale of a pint of corn liquor is as great an outrage against the peace and dignity of the State and as great a wrong against the individual citizen as his secret trial and punishment by organized flogging parties is to put controversy on such a childish level that a grown man cannot afford to waste his time in rebuttal.

Who is the enemy of good government in Alabama—the masked gang that beats mothers, old men, and helpless boys—or that section of the press which denounces the gang, at the same time seeking to prop up the weaker brethren of the tripod to make them voice a like protest?

K. K. K. WARNS AGAINST PROBE

Investigation Will Be Continued In Spite of Threats

Officer Declares He Will Redouble Efforts to Gain In dictments Against Masked Band.

FORCED NEGRO TO SELL

Colored Farmer Got Almost Nothing for His Valuable Land.

Birmingham, Ala., Aug. 4.—(P. N.S.)—Although Solicitor Jim Davis has been warned by the Ku Klux Klan to stop the probe of the flogging of Arthur Hitt, the Negro farmer who was flogged and forced to sell his land for almost nothing, including W. J. Worthington, former clyclops of the Avondale klavern, he armed himself with a pistol Thursday and personally hid back at his adversaries with the strong announcement of a continued grand jury investigation into the case.

The threat against Davis became known Tuesday when, in a signed statement he declared that "an officer of the Ku Klux Klan and another man called on me and warned that unless I laid off" the Hitt case, I was going to get into trouble. I was told by them that W. J. Worthington was innocent and that I must lay off of him as the land he bought from Hitt was worth only $2 an acre.

Will Continue Probe

"I am going to answer the threats with a continued probe of the affair and I am going to give the men who threatened me a chance to speak the same words before a grand jury," Davis said in commenting on the affair.

In the meantime Davis is redoubling his efforts to gain an indictment in the case Hitt says he was whipped and forced to sell valuable land. The grand jury which convened Tuesday without returning any indictments in the Hitt case when it recessed Thursday. It was recessed subject to call of Davis, and will probably be recalled next Tuesday, Davis said.

PLAN EXPOSE KLAN ROSTER IN ALABAMA

(For The Associated Negro Press)

Birmingham, Ala.—If Solicitor Jim Davis is successful in his fight, on Tuesday when the grand jury of Jefferson County convenes to investigate the Hitt flogging case, the roster of the realm of Alabama of the ku klux klan will be exposed and those responsible for the whipping of the colored farmer will be indicted, according to a statement made by the prosecutor, here Saturday morning.

In spite of threats directed at him by members of the klan, Solicitor Davis is going ahead with the investigation and is determined to compel the klan to bare its membership records and lay the cards on the table. The grand jury investigation has developed into a war between the klan and the solicitor. The latest development of the warfare happened Thursday when the solicitor received a postal card which bore but one word: "STOP."

The card was mailed from Birmingham and the word was underscored to add to its impressiveness. The warning only served to increase the determination of the solicitor and he is working "tooth and toe nail" in the effort to bring the floggers to justice.

EAGLE

Marinette - Wis

AUG 9 1927

THE MASKED MOB IN ALABAMA.

Officials in Alabama who have been endeavoring to end the epidemic of floggings in that state are receiving threatening notes. Of course they are anonymous.

Instead of intimidating the authorities, the threat have aroused the government to more decisive action and the public to more vehement insistence upon prosecutions. The public recognizes the inconsistency of the lawless mob which, under the specious pretext of "law enforcement," takes the law into its own hands and then warns constituted authority it must not enforce the law into its own hands and then warns constituted authority it must not enforce the laws and the constitutional provision guaranteeing trial by jury.

Warnings were sent to the county prosecutor at Birmingham. Members of the Klan were charged with sending them. As a result, leaders of that organization have been ordered to reveal the membership records and explain the threats.

Klansmen themselves may not have been guilty of intimidation or flogging, but their regalia has been the cloak under which these cowardly packs, operating by night, have abused and tortured defenseless women and old men and struck terror in the "Black Belt."

Newspapers in the South claim the Klan regalia put to lawless uses has done more than the boll weevil to unsettle negro labor in the farm districts of the South. The result is a quite general demand for legislation outlawing the mask, which seems a futile gesture. Is it likely that any one who has so little respect for law and government that he resorts to mob violence would heed a law banning the mask?

Ku Klux Klan - 1927

Press of The Nation on Masked Floggers in Alabama

FALLING INTO DISFAVOR

Viewing them by and large, things are not going overly well with the eminent Ku Klux Klan. . . . . Already the politicians are shying away from it, and when a politician deserts a ship it is indubitably sinking—for your typical working politician is at once the boldest and the most timid of rats—brave as a lion when the crowd is going along with him, and exceedingly cautious when it shows a disposition to go in another direction.

It is very likely that Governor Graves led his klan friends and supporters to believe that, if elected, he would be the klan governor of Alabama, and they assumed they could go ahead with their programme. But their methods are too crude, and so their chief magistrate has had to announce that floggings by masked bands will not be tolerated. It is very sad, for how is a good klansman to announce himself to the world, how is he to be militant in the cause of virtue and law and order, unless he is permitted to wrap himself in a night-shirt and don a mask or pillow-slip and go out in a gang with other bold spirits and flog helpless women and boys?

And even in Georgia, where lynching and flogging have been popular pastimes, there seems to be a steadily growing prejudice against such noble sports. The principal of a school, who would probably have shot any heretic undertaking to teach evolution in his neighborhood, has been convicted of participating in the flogging of a helpless woman and her young son.

In Indiana, former Boss Stephenson of the klan, languishing in the penitentiary for having murdered a girl secretary, is turning up state officials who divided the loot with him when he was in power, exemplifying the adage that "when thieves fall out, honest men get their dues." For a long time he and his cronies snapped their fingers at the newspapers, which they were able to gag by suits and threats of suits for libel because the complaisant courts clung to the iniquitous doctrines of the Star Chamber Court of England and refused to recognize that the truth could be pleaded in justification of an alleged libel. But the unflagging courage and persistence of one country newspaper editor, defying the entrenched powers, at length started the ball to rolling, and the prospects are that Indiana will get a badly needed bath of publicity and emerge from it in a much more wholesome condition.

Masks and floggings and lynchings are out of date.—Columbia (S. C.) Record.

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MASKS AND PISTOLS

The pending measure before the Alabama legislature barring masks, hoods, etc., worn by associations, klans, groups of men and women on the streets and thoroughfares of the state or in any public place or gathering is aimed, of course, directly at the Ku Klux Klan, but it applies with equal force to the public generally.

One of the strongest arguments used by the proponents of the law against the mask aside from its cowardly and dastardly features, is that it provides an easy alibi for the wretches who wear it in the commission of crimes. Men who flog their neighbors, who terrify communities and who lynch helpless victims while wearing masks will no hesitate to commit perjury; and where there is a "mask fraternity" any one of the "brotherhood" will promptly commit perjury in order to save a "brother" from punishment. Such has been the experience of courts since the klan has been enjoying its noxious vogue.

It is reassuring to know that newspapers, ministers of the Gospel and a few politicians—the failure of the leaders in politics to denounce the Ku Klux Klan and its masks, presents one of the most sordid and disquieting reasons for the long persistence of the organization—are beginning to denounce the klan for its leadership in the perpetuation of outrages under cover of the mask. The klan may not be directly and always responsible for the many outrages recently committed in Georgia, and Alabama, but it is indirectly responsible because masks and the crimes committed behind them are among the fundamentals of the order. Once the mask is outlawed, there will be hope of a recession of the criminal wave so far as personal violence and night-riding are concerned.

The pocket pistol and the mask are companions in crime and it ought to be the business of every good citizen to make a war of extermination on both. And speaking of pistols—there is coming to be a too free use of them in this city. Hardly a day passes that a shooting does not occur. It would seem that there ought to be at least as much solicitude for the enforcement of the law against this murderous anarch as there is against the vending of a few bottles of "hootch."—Chattanooga Times.

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REASONS FOR DISCOURAGEMENT IN ALABAMA

A few days ago when the third flogging in Alabama was uncovered the Daily News took note of the obvious difficulties of state authorities in their announced campaign to put an end to this form of masked sport and to detect and punish the leaders. The chief difficulty was that every time Governor Bibb Graves made a bold statement of his intention against floggers, the floggers came back with another example of what they could do, or perhaps two examples. Thus the more state officials investigated one flogging case, the more flogging cases there were to investigate.

Up until yesterday there were, so far as our records show, three flogging cases under investigation, one of a 19-year-old orphan boy, one of a 28-year-old married woman, and one of a 17-year-old boy. In each of these cases the investigation has been reported as proceeding satisfactorily, and more lately stories have come from Alabama which indicated that the officials were rounding up a lot of evidence. It looked as though progress was being made.

But yesterday the tide turned. A dispatch from Roanoke, Ala., contained the information that "while Jefferson and Blount county grand juries were conducting investigations into floggings by hooded and robed men, Randolph county authorities late today brought to light eight cases of whippings by masked bands."

And so there must be added to the list now the case of a 60-year-old, semi-invalid night watchman, a 42-year-old mother of four children, a 35-year-old farmer, a 45-year-old man, another man about whom details are lacking, and a negro mill hand and two negro women, all now reported as victims of the nightshirt brigade and all, be it noted, from the one county of Randolph. Moreover

Alabama

thus far only four counties have been heard from out of the total of 67. These four, it is true, have reported 11 cases of flogging, but if the same ratio prevails for the entire state there would be something like 184 cases to be investigated.

Under the circumstances it would not be surprising if the state authorities began to be discouraged.—Greensboro (N. C.) Daily News.

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"UNMASK AND DISROBE"

As a result of a series of floggings and beatings administered to helpless citizens in Alabama, The Montgomery Advertiser calls upon all citizens to support the movement now taking form in the Alabama legislature to "outlaw the mask and robe and to strengthen the law against flogging."

The Advertiser says:

> Mask-wearing in public places is indefensible and must be outlawed. All good citizens, we believe, must now realize that the mask in Alabama is a source of unmitigated evil. It is a menace to life and limb and a reproach to civilized society. Concealed under hood and robe men have stalked about in the night in Alabama and cruelly assaulted helpless people, and in other instances intimidated and wronged citizens of the state."

Unlawful assaults upon citizens and other acts of terrorism committed under concealment of masks have suggested to citizens of various states the desirability of a law prohibiting the public appearance of citizens under such disguises. Whatever the merits and wisdom of such a law, The News would prefer to see all organizations of this nature voluntarily abandon the use of identity-concealing garments in public appearances. Unless it became necessary for public welfare and public safety, we would rather regret to see laws passed that would be interpreted as specifically legislating some fraternal organization.

The News believes that there are many individual members of the Ku Klux Klan who neither approve of nor sympathize with such acts of violence as have been committed in the name of the Klan in Alabama and other states. But they must see that their approval of the use of concealing garments in public places as a part of their fraternal ceremonials, has given impetus and encouragement to the commission of deeds that demonstrate outright lawlessness and a complete lack of sympathy with the principles of the American Republic. Such proceedings bring into disrepute the ideals of law and order which the Klan publicly pronounces. In making it possible for its name to be used in connection with unlawful acts, the Klan itself has thrust upon it by public sentiment the onus, in some measure, for these proceedings.

In this day and time, as The News has said before, there is no good reason whatever for any organization of any decription to send its members forth into public places under the disguise of garments that conceal identity. The procedure itself, of course, would not be objectionable were it not for the fact that it is taken advantage of by men who desire the protection of secrecy to commit unlawful acts. But it is being taken advantage of for that purpose, and the Klan itself is suffering in the public estimation as a result of it.

In defense of its own reputation and in justice to the principles which it publicly advocates, The News believes the Klan should unmask and disrobe, that is, insofar as authorizing its members to go abroad in public places under garments that conceal identity. By so doing it can place itself, as an organization, squarely against the use of its insignia as a cloak for unlawful acts.—Greenville (S. C.) News.

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"AS YE SOW"

When a mob of masked men invades a citizen's home at night, renders him helpless and then takes his wife out of bed, ties her to a barrel in the front yard and flogs her, is there any punishment within the law too drastic to fit the crime? We doubt it. Yet such an outrage, just perpetrated in the little town of Florence, Ala., is the logical consequence of a social attitude that condones two utterly inexcusable practices. One is mob interference in private affairs; the other is the coward's affectation of the hood in public. Both, of course, are a natural concomitant of lynch law.

Neither racial nor religious prejudice entered into the commission of this crime, to judge from the reports. Had it done so it would have furnished no excuse. But its absence is a perfect demonstration of the truism that once mob law is countenanced on any pretext whatsoever it soon proceeds to dispense with that pretext. Similar demonstrations are to be had in the recent flogging of a boy by another hooded Alabama mob and of a woman in Georgia under like circumstances.

Governor Bibb Graves is reported to be greatly stirred over this series of floggings and to be taking steps to bring those perpetrators within his own jurisdiction to justice. Meanwhile a state senator is preparing to introduce into the Alabama legislature a bill making it a misdemeanor for any person or band of persons to appear in public wearing masks that conceal or partly conceal their identity. Such a bill should adorn the statute books of every state.—New York Herald Tribune.

GOVERNMENT, VISIBLE AND INVISIBLE

Within the past five weeks, which includes the period between the discovery of the Calloway flogging, which led to the discovery of some 12 or 15 more here and there over the State, thirteen floggings have occurred. With one or two exceptions all of these floggings are only now being brought to light.

Yesterday an Associated Press dispatch from Birmingham said in that time nine floggings had been brought to light in Talladega county, two in St. Clair, one in Calhoun, and one in Randolph county. The dispatch indicates that practically all of these men were flogged by masked gangs. All but two were white. A Sylacauga druggist was whipped and ordered to sell his business and leave the county. In St. Clair two young men are said to have been suspended by their hands to a tree and badly beaten "by masked men." In Talladega a 60-year-old man is among the victims, as is one school teacher. All are men.

4-13-27

We have about lost count, but it appears that publicity has brought to light close to 30 floggings in Alabama, most of them by masked gangs.

Thursday 300 Klansmen, including the exalted cyclops of most of the Klaverns south of Clanton, are said to have attended the convention or "klonverse" in Montgomery, when a resolution endorsing the benevolent reign of Jim Esdale as Grand Dragon was unanimously endorsed. Jim is fresh from Oneonta where he aided and comforted the Klansmen who were on trial for flogging a man. Thus the "klonverse" gives an indirect vote of approval to the action of the Tarrant City Klansmen in Blount county. The convention did not condemn flogging; but it is said to have given a touching demonstration when Esdale attacked Judge O. A. Steele for his part in the Oneonta trial.

Jim Esdale has not and will not discountenance flogging, but goes to war with officers of the law who prosecute and sentence floggers. Three hundred Klansmen hold a convention in the capital city of Alabama and formally bless the reign of this Grand Dragon and presumably all that he has said and done—but do not congratulate the courts of Alabama for the convictions they have returned against floggers.

Those Klansmen who met in Montgomery, including the Grand Dragon, have shown that they are in sympathy with the rule of mask and lash in Alabama.

That is the sort of invisible government to which Alabama is subject.

The legislature of Alabama has just shown that it is not greatly exercised by instances of torture at the hands of men protected by masks. It refused definitely and irrevocably to outlaw the mask and thus strike at the root of the flogging evil.

That is the sort of visible government to which the people of Alabama are subject.

In the meanwhile, midnight flogging parties continue. After the legislature adjourns the floggers will feel safer and may increase their activities, for even this legislature might possibly be goaded into extreme measures against floggers, they reason.

Today it is scarcely wide of the simple truth to say that when a citizen of Alabama, especially if he is accused of having misbehaved himself, answers a ring or a knock at his front door in the stillness of the night, does not know whether he is welcoming a neighbor who has called for a friendly visit or a gang of hooded men who have called to seize and beat him nearly to death.

This is terrorism—but a Klan-controlled legislature in Alabama remains unmoved and unimpressed in face of the condition. That legislature becomes seriously agitated only when it is proposed to strip the mask from the faces of men behind which they hide to torture their nelpless fellow men, or when it is seriously proposed to reestablish a primary election system under which the Ku Klux Klan could not perpetuate its reign because of the fact that a majority of the people of Alabama believe in decency and open-faced government.

END OF THE ONEONTA TRIALS

The Oneonta trials come to a swift, and for the most part, satisfactory ending. After swearing that they were innocent of the charge that they had flogged Jeff Calloway, five defendants in this case decided to plead guilty under a compromise agreement with the State. It was agreed that if they would plead guilty to the flogging charge that the kidnaping charge against them would be nolle prossed, four of them to serve jail sentences of six months and pay fines of $500 each. Dr. Fennell, however, will pay a fine and live under a suspended jail sentence. It seems that the doctor's scientific conscience was of great benefit to Calloway. The doctor advised the boys not to hit him on the spine!

The one unsatisfactory feature of the trials is that the two men first tried fared very much worse than the five who pleaded guilty. While their offense was no greater than that of the men who pleaded guilty, they must serve from 8 to 10 years in the penitentiary, while their accomplices get only six months in jail and draw fines. While the people were gratified at the promptness and vigor with which Judge Steele dealt with them, we do not think that the people are so much interested in seeing the men serve long penitentiary sentences as they are in seeing them brought to justice and made to feel the power of the law. The confessions of the other five were not foreseen.

But the other five have confessed and have been given adequate punishment. If their punishment is adequate, Judge Steele will no doubt agree that the sentences of Doss and Clayton, who happened to be tried first, is excessive, and we do not know how he would have received the agreement.

What really counts in such cases as this is the demonstration by the State of its power to punish evil-doers who before had thought they were above the law. The Jefferson county men who flogged a Blount county citizen have learned that the majesty of the law is supreme. That is the one great lesson they needed to learn, and which many other men in Alabama need to learn. They were put to trial quickly. The degree of punishment here is not so important as the fact that the men are to be punished at all. This sort of work on the part of the authorities will stop flogging.

Our Revolution

The Bastile of masked tyranny has fallen. The verdict of "guilty" by a Blount county jury yesterday was the first decisive stroke received in this state by invisible government at the hands of an outraged commonwealth.

When Louis XVI was told about the fate of the Bastile, he exclaimed, "Why, it is a revolt!" The messenger replied, "Sire, it is not a revolt, it is a revolution."

What happened at Oneonta Thursday is not a casual revolt, it is a revolution against intolerable oppression and injustice, which will be carried on until the people of Alabama are again free and independent.

For the first time in the history of the state, a masked offender has been convicted by a jury of his peers. For the first time, a hooded flogger has been made to feel the steel of the law. For the first time, in an Alabama court, the fabric of intimidation and terrorism woven by the Ku Klux Klan has crumbled before the onset of legal justice. History was made in Oneonta yesterday.

Before word of the verdict came, the widespread opinion was that the Doss case would take the course of other trials, in which secret malevolence has been vainly brought to answer for its sins. The average man on the street in Birmingham, besought for an opinion on the outcome, would have significantly shrugged his shoulders, or said, "They won't do anything." To such an extent had the public mind become indurated to the charmed life and behavior of exponents of masked violence, that a jury's dealing with the issue of flogging was generally regarded with a profound cynicism.

But that is no longer the situation. A fearless judge, a brave prosecutor, a courageous jury, have wrought the transformation. This paper has already spoken its praise of Judge Steele's splendid services, which continue to be noteworthy. It wishes now, remembering the many criticisms it has directed against the attorney general, to record its admiration for the manner in which he has conducted the prosecution. He has won a very genuine personal victory, and his manifestation of official zeal in the premises gives him a stature which has not hitherto seemed to belong to him. The Age-Herald takes off its hat to Mr. McCall.

And now that the ice is broken, may the good work go on. Eugene Doss, made so uncomfortably conspicuous as the first to be tried of the men charged with the whipping of Jeff Calloway, is significant only in so far as his case bared the methods and practices of the organization to which he belongs and closed with the retribution which his conduct merited. Other individuals to be weighed in the balance are no more consequential in the light of the cause of law and decency which they may have antagonized. The revolution, now developing in Alabama, is directed not against persons but against the evils for which they stand. Unfortunately, there is no approach to the larger triumph except through the punishment of lesser men. But it would be profoundly unfortunate if the idea should become prevalent that it is the conviction of floggers per se and not the elimination of the spirit and the will which found expression in flogging which is the great need of Alabama, the vital core of the fight for freedom upon which this state is launched.

In that fight, there can be no let-up. In that fight, every lover of good, every believer in righteousness, must enlist. Let us make a clean and complete job of it. This is no time for stillness or indifference. With the blast of war blowing in our ears, we must stiffen the sinews, summon up the blood. When we shall have broken forever the of mask and lash, then, and not shall we be privileged to sheathe for lack of argument unto the breach, dear friends.

Birmingham Age-Herald

Ku Klux Klan - 1927

Alabama.

EDITORS OF STATE AND NATION ARRAIGN FLOGGERS

THE MASK WINS TEMPORARY VICTORY

The Klan won a temporary victory on the show-down in the senate on the Williams bill outlawing the mask in Alabama. It is alleged that pressure from "downstairs" brought about the defeat of the bill and passage of a substitute, as mild as mother's milk, offered by Senator Ellis of Shelby, administration floor leader and an avowed Klansman. The bill permits the use of the mask by legally constituted secret and fraternal orders. The new measure countenances and legalizes a very odious practice which the sponsors of the movement sought to break up and which has proven such a fruitful source of mischief and lawlessness in those localities where the dominant current of fanatical narrow-mindedness has reached the flood-stage. The mask is a public menace and has everywhere been followed by violent physical penalties. In Texas, Oklahoma, Louisiana, North Carolina and other states the mask has been torn from the faces of its devotees by law and no upwalking man is allowed to hide his identity for any purpose, whether it be ceremonial and pacific or sinister and diabolic. The mask is alien to the spirit of American institutions and disruptive of the peace of communities. The mask is the devil's favorite costume, and it does not matter how strenuously those who wear it protest the purity of their motives. It must be judged by its fruits and the logical results of its militant exclusiveness.—Selma Times-Journal.

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A DISGRACED STATE

Eight more masked floggings have been brought to light in Randolph county. Eight barbarian outrages committed in one Alabama county alone!

With a grand total of eleven Alabama leads all other states in this peculiar form of diversion that seems to attract a large number of civilized men. At least that is the count as this paper is made ready to print. Doubtless others will be revealed as the hours evolve into days.

Alabama should feel more humiliated than she has at any time since the days of the carpetbagger. Her disgrace is complete until the scoundrels who have engaged in this brand of cowardice are unmasked by the hand of law and their miserable bodies penned away from decent citizens by the uncompromising arm of justice. Such inexcusable brutalities cannot be tolerated, and they shall not be.

It is past time for Alabama to put every force of law and order to work. We must regain our self-respect.—Dothan Eagle.

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CIVILIZED PEOPLE PROTECT THEIR WOMEN

It is a fine thing, a heartening exhibit of righteous indignation as well as of a desire for justice, that a jury of farmers in Georgia have convicted a school teacher charged with others with flogging a woman and her son.

It is very well for the precedent to be set and for it to be well understood that women are not going to be degraded and tormented because somebody thinks or has heard things connected with their names of which they do not approve.

American manhood is determined upon one thing deep down in its heart, no matter how its lips may speak of flapperism and modern tendencies on the part of women. It is determined that the thing that makes the difference between civilization and barbarism, namely, respect for women, protection of women, swift retribution for brutes who attack women, shall continue to be the rule in this country.

A man or set of men who undertake individually or in gangs to repeal or amend that code by act of their own, or by acts they inspire, will find that the law has teeth and if the law cannot function public opinion can and will. Women are not going to be flogged in any state in this Union on without a reckoning for the floggers.

Alabama is now suffering from this stigma, but we have confidence in those clothed with the authority to run these assailants to earth and mete out swift and sure justice.—Eufaula Daily Citizen.

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SHALL LAW OR MASKED GANGS GOVERN ALABAMA?

Just how any person who believes in law enforcement can oppose the passage of the measure (the Williams bill) we cannot see, but it is reported from the state capitol that representatives of the Ku Klux Klan are on hand doing all within their power to defeat the bill. If the Klan believes in law enforcement, why oppose this measure. What other form of law violation can be worse than a mob of robed and hooded hoodlums going under the cover of darkness and taking the law into their own hands? Nobody is safe as long as this form of anarchy is permitted. Nothing will wreck the government quicker than mob rule. It is squarely up to the legislature and Governor Bibb Graves as to whether Alabama shall be governed according to law or whether robed and hooded mobs shall direct affairs in this state.—Guntersville Advertiser.

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WANTS TO OUTLAW MASK IN SOUTH CAROLINA

Hooded men in bands are a public menace. One cannot accept the disclaimer of officers of the Ku Klux Klan tha ttheir order condemns violent crimes and in no case has been responsible for them, and the fact remains: Hooded men in bands are a public menace. Therefore, the assembling of men with their faces concealed should be forbidden by law. The General Assembly at its next session should pass an act forbidding it. If the present General Assembly should neglect or refuse to pass such an act its passage should be demanded by the State Democratic convention in the platform that it will adopt in 1928.—Charleston News and Courier.

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ALABAMA ON TRIAL

Three floggings by hooded mobs have been reported in Alabama within two weeks. All the victims were tied and whipped with lashes, it is said, until great welts stood out upon their naked bodies.

All were comparative boys and one of them, at least, is alleged to have committed no other offense than to have been in possession of a pint of bootleg liquor "which the members of the masked band proceeded to drink."

When will this barbarism, perpetrated by cowards who have not the courage to uncover their faces, cease?

Not until courts and juries make examples of them, as in Coffee and Stephens counties in Georgia.

The whole state of Alabama is on trial, and it is up to Governor Graves, who is a vigorous, high-toned, honorable young executive, to see that the good name of the state is vindicated, if it takes the state militia to do it.

It matters not whether these barbarians are the members of a secret hooded order or not.

The fact is paramount that law and order cannot prevail where the mob has immunity.

And it is one or the other.

There is no middle ground.

It is impossible to blow hot and cold at the same time.

Either hooded hoodlumism must be the order of the day or the law must stand supreme. Behind one is the spirit of anarchy behind the other is orderly government.

The wave of "night riding" and of community terrorizing by masked barbarians is sweeping over sections of the South to such an extent that the decency of the whole nation is shocked.

The economic damage to the South will be incalculable unless swift and sure punishments are administered.

The situation is becoming alarming.

The law-abiding public ought to rise up in righteous indignation and either put the hooded mobs out of exstence and send the members to the chaingangs and penitentiaries, or capitulate and frankly admit that inquisition reigns, and that there is no alternative.

Surely this cannot result in a civilized country.—Atlanta Constitution.

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MOB RULE IN ALABAMA

While the press services are brodacasting over the country almost daily reports of the numerous floggings being perpetrated in Alabama by hooded bands and these reports are being published in newspapers throughout the land, giving the state of Alabama a superabundance of the worst type of advertising., we are told by The Montgomery Advertiser that the weekly newspaper editors are not as one in denunciation of the floggings, but that while some denounce the attacks, others defend them and the majority are complacently silent.

The Advertiser presents a highly interesting symposium of the weekly editorial comment that fills three columns of its editorial page, and an even column of its own comment on the attitude of the weekly papers it declares that practically all of the daily papers of the state have expressed themselves, "most of them meeting the present situation in Alabama boldly and honestly."

. . .

Alabama citizens at present seem to be almost at the mercy of the robed and hooded gangs, but leading daily papers such as The Advertiser and numbers of the weekly papers are making a valiant fight to arouse public sentiment and to stir the officers of the law to vigorous action to put down mob rule. Unless a check is placed on the way of activities of these anarchy breeders, and that before much longer, the Commonwealth will suffer irreparably. Pity it is if the people generally in that state will not realize the gravity of the deplorable situation.—Charlotte Observer.

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FLOGGINGS IN ALABAMA

In almost every paper we see accounts of floggings by masked men—masked cowards who are afraid and ashamed to show their faces, and yet pretend to be doing thing that are right. No man in the world seeks a mask to do a thing that is right and no man with a speck of Americanism or manhood about him will don a sheet and a mask and go parading around at night beating cripple men, women and children. It is contrary to the laws of the land and contrary to the word of Jesus Christ. There were plenty of wicked people in the days when Christ was on earth and yet we read no accounts of Jesus and His apostles flogging anybody, masked or unmasked.

Whether it was the Ku Klux Klan or not we don't know or care. We do know that we do know that we never have any whippings here where there is no Klan. The principle is the same, regardless of whether it was a bunch of raving maniacs or a brigade of Kluckers. We don't know which is the worst. We are thankful that the grand dragon failed in keeping the Klan here. He failed because the members found out what it really was after they had been initiated.

If these floggings continue, we hope that Senator Travis Williams will add a clause in his bill making it permissible to carry a nice sawed-off shot gun loaded with buckshot, and no penalty in using it on masked men.—Thomasville Times.

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A CHICAGO VIEW

Alabama regulators who have been flogging victims selected for punishment for one reason or another are giving considerable concern to the law officers of the state. They are now investigating the case of a negro who was flogged to make him sell a small farm at a loss and of a woman who was tied up and lashed because her neighbors thought she needed it. There is evidence to indicate that a large number of Alabama citizens reserve the right under their state laws to conduct their own punitive experiments as they see fit.

The rise of this idea is not confined to Alabama, although just now it is most noticeable there. It is the legitimate fruit of the prohibition spirit. There are exceptions in which it is merely savage thuggism, but aside from these it is the militant meanness of intolerance, proceeding by violence, threats and coercion to have its way for the satisfaction there is in domineering.

Few other things are so distinctly unpleasant in recent American development as this activity of bullies and gossips, for whom helplessness is no defense and to whom nonconformity is punishable sin.—Chicago Tribune.

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GOVERNOR GRAVES' PECULIAR RESPONSIBILITY

It is no secret that Gov. Graves is a Klansman. It is undenied that he owes his nomination and election as governor to the support received by him from the Klan. It is admitted that he has frequently attended their klaverns and addressed their meetings. It is known that his appointees to public office—particularly to law enforcing offices—have been, and are now, Klansmen. It is admitted that the Klan strives to control the machinery of justice in town, county and state—to elect judges, prosecuting attorneys, sheriffs, and jury commissioners. It is charged that the underlying purpose of this effort is to control the machinery of justice in the interest of the Klan—to insure immunty from punishment for the Klans' members and friends.

In view of these facts, of these charges and of this epidemic of anarchy, Col. Bibb Graves, Klansman and governor that he now is, is subjected to the acid test. Upon him—temptation is strong to add upon him alone—now depends whether or not the foul wrongs done this commonwealth in the world's eyes and in its own shall be righted. Power to right these wrongs is un-

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Ku Klux Klan - 1927

Alabama.

EDITORS OF STATE AND NATION ARRAIGN FLOGGERS

THE MASK WINS TEMPORARY VICTORY

The Klan won a temporary victory on the show-down in the senate on the Williams bill outlawing the mask in Alabama. It is alleged that pressure from "downstairs" brought about the defeat of the bill and passage of a substitute, as mild as mother's milk, offered by Senator Ellis of Shelby, administration floor leader and an avowed Klansman. The bill permits the use of the mask by legally constituted secret and fraternal orders. The new measure countenances and legalizes the very evil practice which the sponsors of the movement sought to break up and which has proven such a fruitful source of mischief and lawlessness in those localities where the dominant current of fanatical narrow-mindedness has reached the flood-stage. The mask is a public menace and has everywhere been followed by violent physical penalties. In Texas, Oklahoma, Louisiana, North Carolina and other states the mask has been torn from the faces of its devotees by law and no upwalking man is allowed to hide his identity for any purpose, whether it be ceremonial and pacific or sinister and diabolic. The mask is alien to the spirit of American institutions and disruptive of the peace of communities. The mask is the devil's favorite costume, and it does not matter how strenuously those who wear it protest the purity of their motives. It must be judged by its fruits and the logical results of its militant exclusiveness.—Selma Times-Journal.

* * *

A DISGRACED STATE

Eight more masked floggings have been brought to light in Randolph county. Eight barbarian outrages committed in one Alabama county alone!

With a grand total of eleven Alabama leads all other states in this peculiar form of diversion that seems to attract a large number of civilized men. At least that is the count as this paper is made ready to print. Doubtless others will be revealed as the hours evolve into days.

Alabama should feel more humiliated than she has at any time since the days of the carpetbagger. Her disgrace is complete until the scoundrels who have engaged in this brand of cowardice are unmasked by the hand of law and their miserable bodies penned away from decent citizens by the uncompromising arm of justice. Such inexcusable brutalities cannot be tolerated, and they shall not be.

It is past time for Alabama to put every force of law and order to work. We must regain our self-respect.—Dothan Eagle.

* * *

CIVILIZED PEOPLE PROTECT THEIR WOMEN

It is a fine thing, a heartening exhibit of righteous indignation as well as of a desire for justice, that a jury of farmers in Georgia have convicted a school teacher charged with others with flogging a woman and her son.

It is very well for the precedent to be set and for it to be well understood that women are not going to be degraded and tormented because somebody thinks or has heard things connected with their names of which they do not approve.

American manhood is determined upon one thing deep down in its heart, no matter how its lips may speak of flapperism and modern tendencies on the part of women. It is determined that the thing that makes the difference between civilization and barbarism, namely, respect for women, protection of women, swift retribution for brutes who attack women, shall continue to be the rule in this country.

A man or set of men who undertake individually or in gangs to repeal or amend that code by act of their own, or by acts they inspire, will find that the law has teeth and if the law cannot function public opinion can and will. Women are not going to be flogged in any state in this Union without a reckoning for the floggers.

Alabama is now suffering from this stigma, but we have confidence in those clothed with the authority to run these assailants to earth and mete out swift and sure justice.—Eufaula Daily Citizen.

* * *

SHALL LAW OR MASKED GANGS GOVERN ALABAMA?

Just how any person who believes in law enforcement can oppose the passage of the measure (the Williams bill) we cannot see, but it is reported from the state capitol that representatives of the Ku Klux Klan are on hand doing all within their power to defeat the bill. If the Klan believes in law enforcement, why oppose this measure? What other form of law violation can be worse than a mob of robed and hooded hoodlums going under the cover of darkness and taking the law into their own hands? Nobody is safe as long as this form of anarchy is permitted. Nothing will wreck the government quicker than mob rule. It is squarely up to the legislature and Governor Bibb Graves as to whether Alabama shall be governed according to law or whether robed and hooded mobs shall direct affairs in this state.—Guntersville Advertiser.

* * *

WANTS TO OUTLAW MASK IN SOUTH CAROLINA

Hooded men in bands are a public menace. One cannot accept the disclaimer of officers of the Ku Klux Klan tha ttheir order condemns violent crimes and in no case has been responsible for them, and the fact remains: Hooded men in bands are a public menace. Therefore, the assembling of men with their faces concealed should be forbidden by law. The General Assembly at its next session should pass an act forbidding it. If the present General Assembly should neglect or refuse to pass such an act its passage should be demanded by the State Democratic convention in the platform that it will adopt in 1928.—Charleston News and Courier.

* * *

ALABAMA ON TRIAL

Three floggings by hooded mobs have been reported in Alabama within two weeks. All the victims were tied and whipped with lashes, it is said, until great welts stood out upon their naked bodies.

All were comparative boys and one of them, at least, is alleged to have committed no other offense than to have been in possession of a pint of bootleg liquor "which the members of the masked band proceeded to drink."

When will this barbarism, perpetrated by cowards who have not the courage to uncover their faces, cease?

Not until courts and juries make examples of them, as in Coffee and Stephens counties in Georgia.

The whole state of Alabama is on trial, and it is up to Governor Graves, who is a vigorous, high-toned, honorable young executive, to see that the good name of the state is vindicated, if it takes the state militia to do it.

It matters not whether these barbarians are the members of a secret hooded order or not.

The fact is paramount that law and order cannot prevail where the mob has immunity.

And it is one or the other.

There is no middle ground.

It is impossible to blow hot and cold at the same time.

Either hooded hoodlumism must be the order of the day or the law must stand supreme. Behind one is the spirit of anarchy. Behind the other is orderly government.

The wave of "night riding" and of community terrorizing by masked barbarians is sweeping over sections of the South to such an extent that the decency of the whole nation is shocked.

The economic damage to the South will be incalculable unless swift and sure punishments are administered.

The situation is becoming alarming.

The law-abiding public ought to rise up in righteous indignation and either put the hooded mobs out of exstence and send the members to the chaingangs and penitentiaries, or capitulate and frankly admit that inquisition reigns, and that there is no alternative.

Surely this cannot result in a civilized country.—Atlanta Constitution.

* * *

MOB RULE IN ALABAMA

While the press services are brodacasting over the country almost daily reports of the numerous floggings being perpetrated in Alabama by hooded bands and these reports are being published in newspapers throughout the land, giving the state of Alabama a superabundance of the worst type of advertising., we are told by The Montgomery Advertiser that the weekly newspaper editors are not as one in denunciation of the floggings, but that while some denounce the attacks, others defend them and the majority are complacently silent.

The Advertiser presents a highly interesting symposium of the weekly editorial comment that fills three columns of its editorial page, and an even column of its own comment on the attitude of the weekly papers it declares that practically all of the daily papers of the state have expressed themselves, "most of them meeting the present situation in Alabama boldly and honestly."

. . .

Alabama citizens at present seem to be almost at the mercy of the robed and hooded gangs, but leading daily papers such as The Advertiser and numbers of the weekly papers are making a valiant fight to arouse public sentiment and to stir the officers of the law to vigorous action to put down mob rule. Unless a check is placed on the wave of activities of these anarchy breeders, and that before much longer, the Commonwealth will suffer irreparably. Pity it is if the people generally in that state will not realize the gravity of the deplorable situation.—Charlotte Observer.

* * *

FLOGGINGS IN ALABAMA

In almost every paper we see accounts of floggings by masked men—masked cowards who are afraid and ashamed to show their faces, and yet pretend to be doing things that are right. No man in the world seeks a mask to do a thing that is right and no man with a speck of Americanism or manhood about him will don a sheet and a mask and go parading around at night beating cripple men, women and children. It is contrary to the laws of the land and contrary to the word of Jesus Christ. There were plenty of wicked people in the days when Christ was on earth and yet we read no accounts of Jesus and His apostles flogging anybody, masked or unmasked.

Whether it was the Ku Klux Klan or not we don't know or care. We do know that we do know that we never have any whippings here where there is no Klan. The principle is the same, regardless of whether it was a bunch of raving maniacs or a brigade of Kluckers. We don't know which is the worst. We are thankful that the grand dragon failed in keeping the Klan here. He failed because the members found out what it really was after they had been initiated.

If these floggings continue, we hope that Senator Travis Williams will add a clause in his bill making it permissible to carry a nice sawed-off shot gun loaded with buckshot, and no penalty in using it on masked men.—Thomasville Times.

* * *

A CHICAGO VIEW

Alabama regulators who have been flogging victims selected for punishment for one reason or another are giving considerable concern to the law officers of the state. They are now investigating the case of a negro who was flogged to make him sell a small farm at a loss and of a woman who was tied up and lashed because her neighbors thought she needed it. There is evidence to indicate that a large number of Alabama citizens reserve the right under their state laws to conduct their own punitive experiments as they see fit.

The rise of this idea is not confined to Alabama, although just now it is most noticeable there. It is the legitimate fruit of the prohibition spirit. There are exceptions in which it is merely savage thuggism, but aside from these it is the militant meanness of intolerance, proceeding by violence, threats and coercion to have its way for the satisfaction there is in domineering.

Few other things are so distinctly unpleasant in recent American development as this activity of bullies and gossips, for whom helplessness is no defense and to whom nonconformity is punishable sin.—Chicago Tribune.

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gangs of masked men. In Georgia, men accused of this sneaking and despicable performance have been made to court. In Alabama, there has been an arousing of public resentment and indignation, thanks for it being due in large measure to the demands by The Birmingham Age-Herald. No only does this newspaper defy the Ku Klux Klan, members of which are alleged to have participated in the floggings, but ministers are now preaching sermons against such exhibitions of

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proportions, finds itself expressed in terms of a resentful public opinion.

The Transcript knows to what an extent an organized minority can cry down all opposition and give the effect of being vox populi, while the great body of citizens is only slowly groping toward a definite conviction. That is exactly what has taken place in the South, and that is why crystallized hostility to hooded tyranny is so belatedly making itself effectively felt.—Birmingham Age-Herald.

REIGN OF DRAGON GIVEN APPROVAL AT ANNUAL MEET

Cyclops and Other Leaders Praise Chief For Loyalty and Efficient Regime; Meeting Harmonious, Claim

BRANDS OUST RUMORS AS FALSEHOOD, BY VOTE

Press is Target For Indignant Speeches; Called 'One-Sided'

Unqualified endorsement of the administration of James Esdale, grand dragon of the Ku Klux Klan, realm of Alabama, was voiced in resolutions unanimously adopted at the annual Klonverse of the grand cyclops of the Alabama Province, No. 2, held here yesterday. About 150 exalted cyclops and an equal number of other officers and leaders attended the klonverse. Province No. 2 includes all klaverns in the state south of Clanton.

In addition to praising the work of the grand dragon, the klonverse also condemned the press stories carried on recent floggings as "one-sided." Resolutions also specifically denounced a certain news story carried in a Montgomery afternoon paper as absolutely false insofar as it stated that the klonverse was called for the purpose of instituting ouster proceedings against James Esdale as grand dragon.

Following the klonverse Great Titan Bert Thomas stated that the meeting was the most harmonious he had ever attended. Mr. Thomas presided over the deliberations of a similar klonverse in Birmingham recently for the northern provinces, realm of Alabama. Asked about the Oneonta case, Mr. Thomas stated, "I am not yet convinced that the flogging of Jeff Calloway was done by the Knights of the Ku Klux Klan." He said that he had not investigated the Randolph county floggings and was not in a position to express an opinion on these cases.

Mr. Thomas' expression of doubt on the Oneonta flogging was made despite the fact that during the trials Attorney General McCall brought out from witnesses evidence that the floggers were members of the Tarrant City klavern. Mr. Thomas pointed out that a number of recent floggings were administered by unmasked bands.

None of the pending bills in the legislature aimed at masking or floggings were discussed according to the great titan. "We never discuss political questions in these klonverses," he said. Asked if he did not believe that the elimination of the mask would not redown to the good of the klan, Mr. Thomas said: "The mask will be here as long as the Knights of the Ku Klux Klan stands.."

Resolutions Follow.

The resolutions endorsing Esdale follows:

"Whereas, the grand dragon has served the realm of Alabama in a wholly capable and efficient manner, and

"Whereas, his loyalty and devotion to our cause has at all times been satisfactory to our membership,

"Now, therefore, be it resolved by this klonverse in konvention assembled that we heartily endorse and approve of his administration and pledge him our continued loyalty and cooperation in the furtherance of the principles of our noble cause."

The resolution deploring publication of a reported move to oust Esdale follows:

"Whereas, the Montgomery Journal in its noon publication today saw fit to publish an article stating that there were 150 cyclops meeting in Montgomery to consider the advisability of having the grand dragon removed from office, and further stating that the grand dragon was absent from the meeting when it was called to order this morning.

"Now, therefore, be it resolved by this klonverse assembled that the above statements be, and the same are, hereby denounced as absolute falsehoods, and furthermore, that we pledge to the grand dragon our unqualified support and allegiance in the administration of the affairs of the realm of Alabama, and that a copy of this resolution be sent to the daily press."

While Mr. Thomas did not state that the grand dragon was present at the klonverse, he did state that Mr. Esdale was in Montgomery when the klonverse convened. He explained that he could not, under the rules of the order, say who was present at the meeting except himself.

ALABAMA APPARENTLY AWAKENING

Goaded into activity by the series of whippings perpetrated by gangs of hooded rascals in various parts of the state the Alabama authorities have finally awakened. Those who flogged a white woman in Florence, Ala., have been fined from $25 to $100 each, while in Oneonta, Ala., the first defendant in the case of the nineteen-year-old white boy who was unmercifully flogged because of drunkenness has been sentenced to eight years in prison, and others are awaiting trial.

Thus Alabama seems to be trying to redeem herself. Apparently she is awakening from her complacency, but in reality she is awakening only in the cases of white people who have been flogged. There have been many floggings of Negroes in Alabama, also. Only a couple of weeks ago a Negro farmer was taken out and flogged until he agreed to sell his farm for a paltry sum. His assailants have never been arrested. Indeed, NO ONE has been arrested for the beating of any of the numerous Negroes who have been flogged.

The Negro still remains the test of American justice, chivalry and fairplay. When he is treated squarely and in accordance with the law, then everyone is sure of justice, but when justice and citizenship rights are denied him, then no white person is safe from lawlessness and persecution.

In Alabama, in all of the Southern states and in a great many parts of the North, the Goddess of Justice allows the fold to drop away from her eyes when a Negro is wronged, and immediately she manifests all of the color prejudice so characteristic of race conscious Nordics. When will the time come that justice is blind to everything but the law and the evidence? Whenever that may be, it will not be until then that Alabama can be said to have fully awakened. And what is true of Alabama is more or less true of the entire ~~United~~ States.

TO MAKE THE JOB COMPLETE

The Advertiser is in receipt of the following letter from Mr. F. G. Salter, prominent Montgomery business man:

Every respectable and law abiding citizen of the state should heartily commend you and other able editors for the vigorous crusade waged against the nefarious practices that have taken place within recent months. The work done at Oneonta by a courageous judge and a fearless jury should certainly meet with the approval of good people everywhere.

Although the floggers have been indicted, found guilty and just punishment meted out to them, the job is not yet complete. That "poor orphan boy," Calloway (my understanding is that he is a man of 23 or 24 years of age) should now be made to face the judge and jury and just legal punishment meted out to him for disorderly conduct, drunkenness and disturbing public worship. After he has been attended to, then the bootlegger or moonshiner who sold Calloway the liquor should also be hauled into the same courthouse and a deserved fine and jail sentence imposed upon him for violating the prohibition laws of this State. The job will then be fairly complete.

We quite agree that the men who sold Jeff Calloway the liquor as well as the men who manufactured it originally—for we are satisfied it wasn't pre-war stuff—should be arrested, tried and if found guilty given adequate punishment. More than one commentator on the Blount county affair has pointed out the same need, but those who did it before the convictions of the floggers seemed to The Advertiser to be interested in confusing the situation. The Advertiser regarded the flogging as a greater wrong against society than the manufacture and sale of the liquor that Jeff Calloway had on him until somebody in the crowd took it away from him and drank what was left. It preferred to avoid side issues in the interest of the major issue. Now, however, since the State has shown that it can reach out and get men by the throat even though these men are hooded and gowned, it is not improper to return to the liquor law violation involved in the affair. It is The Advertiser's opinion that, as Mr. Salter suggests, the law should now reach out and get the bootleggers and distillers behind the scenes of the drama at old Antioch church on a famous June night.

But we cannot agree with the gentleman when he recommends that officers of the law should now reach out and nab Jeff and punish him for having disturbed public worship. Jeff should have been delivered to the court and held to accountability for his reprehensible conduct before he was flogged by the terrorists from Tarrant City. But since the floggers have already dealt with him pitilessly and cruelly, The Advertiser is quite sure that Jeff has suffered enough for this one offense. Besides, the State owes him some consideration for his cooperation with it in the recent trials. It is true that the officers felt that it was necessary to keep Jeff, the State's star witness, in jail to restrain any vagrant impulse he might have had to flee for parts unknown, and it is true that the State had to prop him up to carry him through the ordeal of the trials. Nevertheless, Jeff did very well in all the circumstances. He made a good witness—better, for instance, than Jim Esdale did.

All in all, we think Jeff and the State are about even, and a truce should be signed.

But before Jeff is forgotten, we should certainly like to know what his age is. Early in his career as a public character he was 19, but as he became more and more noted his age increased until now it is hinted that he may be 24 years old. What is the truth about this?

There is, however, no dispute about Jeff's status in one respect. It seems to be agreed that he was an orphan. More than one commentator has remarked that he did not see the pertinence of the fact that Jeff is an orphan. But the fact is pertinent and significant. If Jeff had had a father, two uncles and six lanky cousins the Klan would not have risked flogging him, in all probability. He would have been quietly reported to the grand jury instead.

Ku Klux Klan — 1927

Alabama

NEWS
CLEVELAND, O.

JUL 16 1927

Flogged Into Selling

HAVING passed comment on some of the southern floggings recently so numerous and outrageous, we may as well take brief notice of another. Sheriff Hartsfield of Jefferson county, Alabama, called it the worst of all the flogging cases investigated by him. The victim was Arthur Hitt, a farmer who had declined to sell his little farm. A band of masked men took him from his home, strapped him to a tree and beat him "unmercifully." Three days later he accepted $900 for his land, said to be worth far more.

Law has always made a great point of guarding property rights, as it well may, and it must confess itself impotent indeed if it cannot protect a man from being robbed of his home by group terrorism, hiding behind masks and armed with criminal torture.

there is any culpability in Worthington's acquirement of this land and it is the court's responsibility to determine the guilt of those who took the law into their own hands in the mistreatment of Arthur Hitt.

But aside from what may be done by the courts; aside from the efforts of the grand jury now being made to get at the bottom of this affair; aside from the duty devolving upon the law enforcement authorities of the state to bring the guilty to justice, the incident itself is of a character which will do the state incalculable harm. It is probably the most shocking to the public conscience of all the masked crimes which have recently disgraced the state. That Alabama permits to exist in any county a condition where an inoffensive, hard-working negro may be forced by the lash to sacrifice a home and farm which he has owned for thirty-five years and which has been in his family for sixty-five years, is shameful; but it should constitute a ringing challenge to lovers of law and order that such a condition must be ended.

Not only should this negro's property be restored to him, but he should have such reparation and redress as is possible in the courts of white friends of the race who admire thrift and right-living and who resent impositions by the strong upon the weak. Jefferson county's obligation in the matter goes far beyond the borders of the county, for the incident is a reflection upon the whole state, and all Alabama must suffer from the rebuke and abuse which will be directed toward the state for the outrageous conduct of which Arthur Hitt has been the victim.

TIMES

JUL 1927

Case Of Arthur Hitt Is Ringing Challenge.

Arthur Hitt is an esteemed negro who owned a farm of 60 acres in Jefferson county for thirty-five years, a farm which had been in his family for sixty-five years. A month ago some white men offered him $600 for the land which realtors have estimated has a value of $6,000. The negro declined to sell. A few nights later a band of masked men dragged him from his home, tied him to a three and beat him unmercifully, inflicting wounds from which he has not yet recovered, ordered him to move out of the community and warned that if he ever told of the flogging he would be killed. He then sold his farm for a price which netted him about $650.

It has developed that the land was sold to W. J. Worthington, wealthy Birmingham citizen, exalted cyclops of the Avondale Ku Klux Klan, leader of the masked raids on the Chinese restaurants of Birmingham last year and intimate friend of James Esdale, grand dragon of the Ku Klux Klan in Alabama. Worthington has issued a statement that he had nothing to do with the whipping of Hitt, that he paid all the land was worth, but adding that he expects to be indicted by the grand jury of Jefferson county.

The courts of Jefferson must find whether

NEW HAVEN, CONN.

Journal

JUL 22 1927

NEGRO FLOGGED

Alabama calls itself a state of law, order and decency.

If it expects to be worthy of that high standard of civilization it will not fail to take official notice of what has happened to a single negro—a happening that is a disgrace to the state of Alabama and this nation.

As a result of an official inquiry it is claimed and apparently proved that masked men have perpetrated three floggings in Alabama within the last two weeks.

Evidence was given that Arthur Hitt, a negro land owner, was flogged unmercifully several days ago and frightened into disposing of several acres of valuable land for $800.

After refusing an offer for the land, Hitt told Sheriff Hartsfield that a band of masked men aroused him from his bed, took him seven miles from his home, strapped him to a tree and flogged him with straps and limbs from trees. Three days later he signed away his property.

Scars and welts on the negro's back and a large gash on his forehead, bear out his story, according to the sheriff.

Sheriff Hartsfield said he believes the property which is valued conservatively at $6,000, may be regained because of the manner in which it is alleged to have been obtained. The deed is also expected to be a clue to the identity of the floggers. The sheriff characterized the case as the very worst of all the flogging cases that had been brought to his attention, and Solicitor Davis has ordered Hitt brought before the Jefferson County Grand jury immediately, and all indications help to the conclusion that Alabama will see that justice is done in this case and others of similar import.

Alabama Hoodlums Threaten Probers

(Preston News Service)

Birmingham, Ala.—Although Solicitor Jim Davis, has been warned by the Ku Klux Klan to stop the probe of the flogging of Arthur Hitt, the Negro farmer who was flogged and forced to sell his land for almost nothing, involving W. J. Worthington, former clyclops of the Avondale klavern, armed himself with a pistol Thursday and personally hit back at his adversaries with the strong announcement of a continued grand jury investigation into the case.

The threat against Davis became known Tuesday when, in a signed statement he declared that "an officer of the Ku Klux Klan and another man called on me and warned that unless I laid off the Hitt case I was going to get into trouble. I was told by them that W. J. Worthington was innocent and that I must lay off of him as the land he bought from Hitt was worth only $2 an acre.

"I am going to answer the threats with a continued probe of the affair and I am going to give the men who threatened me a chance to speak the same words before a grand jury," Davis said in commenting on the affair.

In the meantime Davis is redoubling his efforts to gain an indictment in the case of Hitt who was whipped and forced to sell valuable land. The grand jury which convened Tuesday without returning any indictments in the Hitt case when it recessed Thursday. It was recessed subject to call next Tuesday, Davis said.

N. Y. WORLD

JUL 28 1927

PROSECUTOR FIRM IN DEFYING KLAN

Alabaman, Twice Threatened, Keeps Up Investigation of Negro Flogging

HOODED CHIEF INVOLVED

Masons of Tennessee Rally Against Masked Bands

Special Despatch to The World

BIRMINGHAM, Ala., July 27.—Another threat of violence against Jefferson County solicitors if the investigation of the Arthur Hitt flogging, which involves a prominent Klansman, did not stop, was received by Willard Drake, Assistant Solicitor, over the telephone to-day.

"Unless you stop your work in the Hitt case you will get into serious trouble," the voice said and the receiver was banged down before Drake could reply.

This is the second threat made against the Solicitor's office in as many days. Tuesday, James Davis, Solicitor, was warned by two Klan officials whom he names to stop "work in the Hitt case or trouble awaits you." Both will be called before the Grand Jury next week, the Solicitor said. The identity of the man who telephoned Drake is a mystery.

James Esdale, Grand Dragon of the Alabama Ku Klux Klan, said Davis's statement that he had been threatened was ridiculous. It is a political move, Esdale said. However, it is understood that he is making an investigation of the matter.

Alabama is indignant over the threats. It is probable that the Attorney General's office will be called on to aid in ascertaining whether the sale of his land Hitt and whether Worthington, the next day to W. J. Worthington, former Exalted Cyclops of the hooded order, was a direct result of the flogging.

The Jefferson County Grand Jury, recessed Tuesday by Davis, will be called next week to hear evidence of the flogging and Worthington's acquisition of Hitt's land, which the Negro said he sold because he was afraid to refuse. Solicitor Davis has armed himself with a pistol.

Tennessee Masons Ready to Line Up Against Flogging

Special Despatch to The World

NASHVILLE, Tenn., July 27.—Rallying to the aid of the Masonry of Alabama, the Masonry of Tennessee today raised its voice against floggings and mob action such as have occurred in Alabama and certain counties of Tennessee near the Alabama line in the past two years.

Tennessee Masons are ready to take up the cudgels against mob action and flogging by masked bands, if conditions similar to those in Alabama arise, according to Grand Master Fox.

Ku Klux Klan — 1927

Alabama

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JUL 1927

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Arthur Hitt is an esteemed negro who owned a farm of 60 acres in Jefferson county for thirty-five years, a farm which had been in his family for sixty-five years. A month ago some white men offered him $600 for the land which realtors have estimated has a value of $6,000. The negro declined to sell. A few nights later a band of masked men dragged him from his home, tied him to a three and beat him unmercifully, inflicting wounds from which he has not yet recovered, ordered him to move out of the community and warned that if he ever told of the flogging he would be killed. He then sold his farm for a price which netted him about $650.

It has developed that the land was sold to W. J. Worthington, wealthy Birmingham citizen, exalted cyclops of the Avondale Ku Klux Klan, leader of the masked raids on the Chinese restaurants of Birmingham last year and intimate friend of James Esdale, grand dragon of the Ku Klux Klan in Alabama. Worthington has issued a statement that he had nothing to do with the whipping of Hitt, that he paid all the land was worth, but adding that he expects to be indicted by the grand jury of Jefferson county.

The courts of Jefferson must find whether there is any culpability in Worthington's acquirement of this land and it is the court's responsibility to determine the guilt of those who took the law into their own hands in the mistreatment of Arthur Hitt.

But aside from what may be done by the courts; aside from the efforts of the grand jury now being made to get at the bottom of this affair; aside from the duty devolving upon the law enforcement authorities of the state to bring the guilty to justice, the incident itself is of a character which will do the state incalculable harm. It is probably the most shocking to the public conscience of all the masked crimes which have recently disgraced the state. That Alabama permits to exist in any county a condition where an inoffensive, hard-working negro may be forced by the lash to sacrifice a home and farm which he has owned for thirty-five years and which has been in his family for sixty-five years, is shameful; but it should constitute a ringing challenge to lovers of law and order that such a condition must be ended.

Not only should this negro's property be restored to him, but he should have such reparation and redress as is possible in the courts of white friends of the race who admire thrift and right-living and who resent impositions by the strong upon the weak. Jefferson county's obligation in the matter goes far beyond the borders of the county, for the incident is a reflection upon the whole state ,and all Alabama must suffer from the rebuke and abuse which will be directed toward the state for the outrageous conduct of which Arthur Hitt has been the victim.

Alabama Floggings Threaten Probe

Alabama calls itself a state of law, order and decency.

If it expects to be worthy of that high standard of civilization it will not fail to take official notice of what has happened to a single negro —a happening that is a disgrace to the state of Alabama and this nation.

As a result of an official inquiry it is claimed and apparently proved that masked men have perpetrated three floggings in Alabama within the last two weeks.

Evidence was given that Arthur Hitt, a negro land owner, was flogged unmercifully several days ago and frightened into disposing of several acres of valuable land for $800.

After refusing an offer for the land, Hitt told Sheriff Hartsfield that a band of masked men aroused him from his bed, took him seven miles from his home, strapped him to a tree and flogged him with straps and limbs from trees. Three days later he signed away his property.

Scars and welts on the negro's back and a large gash on his forehead, bear out his story, according to the sheriff.

Sheriff Hartsfield said he believes the property which is valued conservatively at $6,000, may be regained because of the manner in which it is alleged to have been obtained. The deed is also expected to be a clue to the identity of the floggers. The sheriff characterized the case as the very worst of all the flogging cases that had been brought to his attention, and Solicitor Davis has ordered Hitt brought before the Jefferson County Grand jury immediately, and all indications help to the conclusion that Alabama will see that justice is done in this case and others of similar import.

NEW HAVEN, CONN.

JUL 22 1927

NEGRO FLOGGED

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N. Y. WORLD

JUL 28 1927

PROSECUTOR FIRM IN DEFYING KLAN

Alabaman, Twice Threatened, Keeps Up Investigation of Negro Flogging

HOODED CHIEF INVOLVED

Masons of Tennessee Rally Against Masked Bands

Special Despatch to The World

BIRMINGHAM, Ala., July 27.—Another threat of violence against Jefferson County solicitors if the investigation of the Arthur Hitt flogging, which involves a prominent Klansman, did not stop, was received by Willard Drake, Assistant Solicitor, over the telephone to-day.

"Unless you stop your work in the Hitt case you will get into serious trouble," the voice said and the receiver was banged down before Drake could reply.

This is the second threat made against the Solicitor's office in as many days. Tuesday, James Davis, Solicitor, was warned by two Klan officials whom he names to stop "work in the Hitt case or trouble awaits you." Both will be called before the Grand Jury next week, the Solicitor said. The identity of the man who telephoned Drake is a mystery.

James Esdale, Grand Dragon of the Alabama Ku Klux Klan, said Davis's statement that he had been threatened was ridiculous. It is a political move, Esdale said. However, it is understood that he is making an investigation of the matter.

Alabama is indignant over the threats. It is probable that the Attorney General's office will be called on to aid in ascertaining who whipped Hitt and whether the sale of his land the next day to W. J. Worthington, former Exalted Cyclops of the hooded order, was a direct result of the flogging.

The Jefferson Grand Jury, recessed Tuesday by Davis, will be called next week to hear evidence of the flogging and Worthington's acquisition of Hitt's land, which the Negro said he sold because he was afraid to refuse. Solicitor Davis has armed himself with a pistol.

Tennessee Masons Ready to Line Up Against Flogging

Special Despatch to The World

NASHVILLE, Tenn., July 27.—Rallying to the aid of the Masonry of Alabama, the Masonry of Tennessee today raised its voice against floggings and mob action such as have occurred in Alabama and certain counties of Tennessee near the Alabama line in the past two years.

Tennessee Masons are ready to take up the cudgels against mob action and flogging by masked bands, if conditions similar to those in Alabama arise, according to Grand Master Fox.

Birmingham, Ala.

JUL 14 1927

The Hideous Case Of Arthur Hitt: A Black Man's Cry For Justice

Not only Alabama, but the country as well—and very unfortunately for this state's prestige—will concentrate attention upon the hideously mean yet piteously appealing case of Arthur Hitt that was revealed exclusively in The Birmingham News of Wednesday last.

Arthur Hitt is an Alabama negro, who until recently lived on, and tended, his 60-acre farm in Jefferson County. To his acquaintances in and near Birmingham he is known as a sober, industrious, law-abiding and useful citizen. For 30 years he had owned 60 acres of land, more or less, and had worked it hard and honestly. Upon it he had reared his family. His land was good land, and worth easily not less than $6,000. A few weeks ago, according to the story of this honest, industrious, law-abiding Alabama negro, a white man offered him $600 for this land worth $6,000. Hitt declined the offer. Soon thereafter, he was aroused one night at his home, enticed out of his house, knocked in the head until he was almost senseless, pitched into an automobile, carried into the woods and brutally lashed by a band of hooded and robed white men. Soon after this atrocious crime was committed, he was approached again—this time by another white man—respecting the sale of his land. In ways that white men devise, this ignorant, frightened black man was induced to sell his land, and to sell it for a fraction of what it was readily worth. Intimidated, Hitt moved into Birmingham, where he secreted himself. Here his whereabouts were discovered by a friend of his—a white man, let it be added. To this friendly, helpful white man, Hitt told his pitiful story. This story The Birmingham News has printed. This story this newspaper now drives home to the conscience and intelligence of this state with a demand that, if possible, this foul wrong be righted, insofar at least as any wrong so foul as this one apparently is can be righted.

Arthur Hitt is the kind of negro that decent, law-abiding white people of the South know is indispensable to the South's progress and prosperity. He is the kind of black man that white men with a spark of justice in their hearts have defended, and been defended by, for 300 years. He is the kind of black man that guarded the homes and plantations of the South in the four years of Civil War—the kind of black man that the late Benjamin Harvey Hill, of Georgia, had in mind when he said in 1876: "The South will do justice to the negro. He is in our power. And cowardice takes no meaner shape than when strength oppresses weakness."

This Hitt case goes to the pith and marrow of the hideous thing that robe-and-hood misrule now is in Alabama. It sets out the lash as the instrument, not of justice, but of covetousness—of cruelty and shameless cowardice. There is no crime graver or meaner than that which flares up when intelligence takes advantage of ignorance, or when "strength oppresses weakness." In the Calloway case, there was venomous barbarism. In the Florence case, there was a dastardly vengeance wreaked by lawless hands. In the Bessemer case, there was the spirit of anarchy. But underlying none of these three cases could be discerned sordid motive of money.

Fifty years before the institution of human slavery was abolished, Thomas Jefferson, looking out over the land and reflecting calmly upon the situation then developing, wrote warningly to a friend of his: "I tremble for my country when I remember that God is just." Men and women of Alabama—particularly white women and white men of this state—may indeed tremble for their commonwealth as they read the details of this Arthur Hitt case and, bear in mind that retribution is God's unalterable law.

The hooded-and-robed white men who flogged this honest, industrious black man and forced him to give up the earnings of a lifetime for a mere pittance, represent a type of Alabama citizenship that constitutes the gravest menace now known to the country.

Anarchy is anarchy, no matter where it raises its hideous head.

The man now in authority who most needs to comprehend this point is the Hon. Bibb Graves, chief magistrate of this commonwealth.

ST. LOUIS, MO.

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FLOGGING BY MASKED BRUTES.

From two southern states come astounding stories of the brutal flogging of women by mobs of men, the first case being from Georgia, and three others from Alabama. Now comes an equally astonishing story of a negro property owner being whipped because he would not sell for a song land that was of considerable value. Following the beating, he did transfer his property and the Alabama authorities hope to find a clew in the deeds.

These are not isolated cases, although they have been the only ones to find their way into print recently. Masked men have been busy these several years in arrogating to themselves the right to punish a neighbor whose conduct they did not like and who could not be haled into court. Gov. Graves of Alabama is deeply concerned over the Alabama situation and plans to make it a serious offense to wear a mask of any kind in the streets of any Alabama community. Georgia has already taken the situation in hand and a jury has convicted one of the five charged with flogging a woman they charged with immorality, failure to attend church, failure to explain the source of her support, and because of her "nice dresses." Another is now on trial.

It is high time that fanatics such as these should be curbed. Their mental attitude is worse than that of the densely ignorant. They are fanatic to the point of insanity and

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Victim Whose Wife Was Slain By Marauders Discovered In Cleveland, O., Where He Fled In Fear

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Alleged Klansman Indicted To Face Trial. Effort To End Evil In Alabama For Good

Special to the St. Louis Argus

BIRMINGHAM, Ala., Aug. 3. — Emory Cobb, husband of the late Lilly Cobb, 36, who was lynched by a masked band of Marauders near Oneonta, April 25, 1926, and exiled the day after by fear of the Ku Klan Klan was located by authorities last week in Cleveland. He has promised to return and testify in the case in an effort to bring the lynchers to justice.

Fled In Fear

Cobb has been promised every protection of the law. He will offer testimony against Edgar Moses, white, who was indicted by a Grand jury almost two years ago in connection with the murder. The aged records of the case were brought to light during the investigation of the numerous floggings that have occurred in this vicinity.

Cobb said he fled Alabama fearing for his very life after the lynching of his wife by alleged Klansmen. In the presence of his mother and sister, Mrs. Mattie Bradley, tea room proprietress of Cleveland, he repeated the story of the crime,

Lived Peacefully

Since 1911 Cobb and his wife and eight children had lived peacefully on his 207-acre cotton and truck farm on the outskirts of Oneonta, 36 miles north of this city.

On Sunday night April 25, 1926, he said he and his family had retired when they were awakened by a terrible noise about 10 o'clock. Cobb's Daughters, Claudine, 19, Ella Margaret, 13, and Emma Lillie, 12, were sleeping in the front room.

The children told how the band of 30 or 40 men wore white gowns and laughed as they crashed in the door.

Goes After Slayers

Cobb grabbed his gun and fired striking one of the lynchers as he entered the house. The gang then fired many shots into the room. Cobb's wife fell mortally wounded. A bullet had pierced her side. The courageous Cobb slipped out of the house and ran to a neighbor's farm where he obtained another gun and more ammunition and returned to fight to death to defend his family.

Not until his returned did he learn of his wife's critical condition, and like a wild mad he dash out of the house after the attackers, who had fled during his absence. But he was unable to avenge the wounding of his wife, for the band reached their automobiles, which they had parked about a half a mile from the scene of the attack, and drove off before he could catch up with them.

Cobb returned to his home and sought the use of a neighbor's car, but Klan gangs had flogged many colored people in the district and they were afraid to assist him. He finally obtained a doctor who dressed his wife's wound. In spite of all efforts, however, Mrs. Cobb passed away the next afternoon.

Flees For Life

Cobb trudged into town and bought a coffin and made funeral arrangements. On the streets he told his story," he said.

Found the white population gathered in groups of 20 to 30. As he passed they became silent and pointed at him knowingly. Upon the advise of authorities and friends, Cobb from the vicinity even before his wife had been buried.

The klan was after his wife that night rather than him, Cobb believes. "Some woman had spread a story that my wife had been with another

bullet wound dressed. The wound is believed to have been inflicted by the gunfire of Cobb during the attack upon his home.

Meanwhile, State Law Enforcement Officer Cain is preparing to testify in the case of Moses, indicted in connection with the slaying of his wife. Cobb will be given protection while in Alabama, Atty., Gen. McCall has stated.

Indict Moses

The home of Moses, the indicted

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Ku Klux Klan- 1927

Alabama

KLANSMAN TO GO ON TRIAL FOR SLAYING

State Brings Back Exiled Race Man to Testify Against Alleged Slayer of His Wife.

Courier-Jo-27

MONTGOMERY, Ala., Aug. 4.—The most daring and significant move in the relentless and determined war against secret oligarchy in the State of Alabama is being made this week when Emory Cobb, once well-to-do Negro farmer, will be brought to Oneonta from Cleveland, O., where he fled following the slaying of his wife by alleged Klansmen 15 months ago. Edgar Moses, white, charged with the murder, has been held by the Blount county authorities since his indictment, but the case has never come to trial because Cobb "could not be found." The Birmingham Age-Herald, however, courageously began a search for Cobb and last Wednesday Fred Cain, State law enforcement officer, left for the Ohio town and Cobb is expected to arrive in Montgomery within the next few days.

Mrs. Cobb, a pretty Southern belle, was killed when a masked band attempted to force entrance into the Cobb home. Cobb shot into the crowd of marauders wounding Moses. Moses demanded aid of an Oneonta doctor the same night and on this evidence he was indicted. It is alleged the Klan was bent upon the life of Mrs. Cobb, following an ugly rumor connecting her name with a man.

"Some woman had spread the story about town that my wife had been with another man," Cobb told reporters, "but I proved it was just a story. I think they came after her on the strength of that, though."

The tragic story will be related to the grand jury by Cobb, he says, providing he is assured protection. His testimony is absolutely necessary to bolster the state's case against the white man, and the authorities have pledged Cobb that he need have no fear. The recent floggings in the state have provoked the eagerness to try Moses and in spite of threats the state prosecutor declared the case would come to trial in the fall term of court. "The war against masked methods of "legalized law enforcement will be fought to a finish," he said.

Cobb had lived peaceably on his little farm in Oneonta for 15 years—peaceably until April 25, 1925. On this night he and his wife and eight children had retired early. It was their custom after a hard day in the fields where they toiled over cotton and truck vegetables to go to bed early. They had hardly adjusted themselves comfortably for the night when they heard a terrible noise.

Several men crashed through the front door, awaking three of Cobb's daughters; Claudine, 19; Ella Margaret, 13, and Emma Lillie, 12, who were sleeping in the front room. The children related how the band of 30 or 40 men in white robes laughed as they broke down the door. Hearing them enter the house Cobb grabbed his gun. When the men opened the door of his bedroom he fired. One of the men screamed and all of them began firing into the room, some through the door and some from the yard through the window.

Learns Wife Shot

Fifteen or twenty shots were fired, Cobb estimates, and then the white-robed marauders left. He slipped out the back door and ran 200 yards to the next farm house to get another gun.

Not until he returned with it did he learn that his wife, Lillie, 36, was shot through the abdomen. His children told him and like a wild man he ran after the alleged klan gang, his gun in his arm. When he got to the main road, a quarter of a mile away, where the raiders had parked their automobiles, he heard them drive away.

When he returned to his home, breathless, he sent one of his boys into Oneonta for a doctor. Dr. Myers examined Cobb's wife and ordered her to the hospital in Oneonta.

Then Cobb ran from neighbor to neighbor trying to get an automobile to carry her to the hospital. The klan had flogged several Negroes in the neighborhood the preceding week and one that night and all were afraid to aid Cobb.

Despairing he sent for Dr. Myers again and one of the neighbors agreed to bring his wife into town if the doctor would ride with them, which he did. Cobb was sheltered by other neighbors that night and on the following afternoon his wife died.

"Spotted" by Whites

He trudged into town to purchase a coffin and make funeral arrangements. On the streets he found the white population gathered in little groups of 20 to 30. As he passed they became silent and pointed at him knowingly.

Some of the white people, he said, who were his friends, advised him to flee the state to save his life. Others thought he would be safe to remain until the case was tried. Justice of Peace George Darden sought him out and offered to let him stay in jail for safety but Cobb thought that would be little protection from a gang of hoodlums.

Then Darden advised him to stay with neighbors, at a different house each night but not to stay in his own home. "I can protect you all right during the day," Darden told Cobb, "but it's impossible at night."

Circuit Court Judge Ollie Steel came from a nearby town and communicating with Cobb through his friends, advised him to leave the state. Satisfied that his life would be in jeopardy if he remained in the town any longer Cobb borrowed money from friends and left for Cleveland late that Tuesday night.

Cobb did not recognize any of the men in the alleged Ku Klux gang and believes they came from another small town nearby. Some klan members live in Oneonta, he believes.

"Down there when the klan in a town wants anything done," Cobb said, "they call on the klan of another town nearby to do it for them so they won't get into trouble so easily."

His belief is borne out by the fact that the home of Moses, the indicted man, is in another town nearby, according to Cobb.

After His Wife

The klan was after his wife that night rather than him, Cobb believes.

In Cleveland Cobb sought refuge with his mother and sister, Mrs. Mattie Bradley, who operates a tea room.

Realizing that he was not safe there if attempts to extradite him were made, his sister found a place for him in another part of the city. Only she knows where he can be found.

When he left Alabama Cobb was forced to leave his eight children behind him. Negro church societies in Cleveland gave him money to bring them to Cleveland.

NEW YORK TIMES

JUL 14 1927

NEW FLOGGING CASE BARED IN ALABAMA

Negro Forced to Sell His Farm Far Below Its Value, He Tells Sheriff.

FIVE FLORENCE ARRESTS

Two Women and Three Men Are Accused of Having Severely Beaten Mrs. Slay.

BIRMINGHAM, Ala., July 13 (AP).—Another link was added today to the chain of Alabama floggings when evidence was given Jefferson County authorities that Arthur Hitt, a negro farmer, had been severely whipped by a band of masked men and frightened into disposing of a tract of land for a sum far beneath its value.

Hitt was taken from his home, strapped to a tree and beaten unmercifully in what Sheriff Hartsfield said was the "very worst of all the flogging cases" brought to his attention.

The beating of the negro followed his refusal to dispose of his small tract of land. Three days after the whipping, however, he signed away his land, he said, for $900.

The story told by the negro is being investigated by Sheriff Hartsfield, with a view to restoring to him his property. If it is found authentic, Solicitor Davis of Jefferson County will take action against the purchaser of the property.

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Ku Klux Klan- 1927

Alabama

KLANSMAN TO GO ON TRIAL FOR SLAYING

State Brings Back Exiled Race Man to Testify Against Alleged Slayer of His Wife.

Courier-27

MONTGOMERY, Ala., Aug. 4.—The most daring and significant move in the relentless and determined war against secret oligarchy in the State of Alabama is being made this week when Emory Cobb, once well-to-do Negro farmer, will be brought to Oneonta from Cleveland, O., where he fled following the slaying of his wife by alleged Klansmen 15 months ago. Edgar Moses, white, charged with the murder, has been held by the Blount county authorities since his indictment, but the case has never come to trial because Cobb "could not be found." The Birmingham Age-Herald, however, courageously began a search for Cobb and last Wednesday Fred Cain, State law enforcement officer, left for the Ohio town and Cobb is expected to arrive in Montgomery within the next few days.

Mrs. Cobb, a pretty Southern belle, was killed when a masked band attempted to force entrance into the Cobb home. Cobb shot into the crowd of marauders wounding Moses. Moses demanded aid of an Oneonta doctor the same night and on this evidence he was indicted. It is alleged the Klan was bent upon the life of Mrs. Cobb, following an ugly rumor connecting her name with a man.

"Some woman had spread the story about town that my wife had been with another man," Cobb told reporters, "but I proved it was just a story. I think they came after her on the strength of that, though."

The tragic story will be related to the grand jury by Cobb, he says, providing he is assured protection. His testimony is absolutely necessary to bolster the state's case against the white man, and the authorities have pledged Cobb that he need have no fear. The recent floggings in the state have provoked the eagerness to try Moses and in spite of threats the state prosecutor declared the case would come to trial in the fall term of court. "The war against masked methods of "legalized law enforcement will be fought to a finish," he said.

Cobb had lived peaceably on his little farm in Oneonta for 15 years—peaceably until April 25, 1925. On this night he and his wife and eight children had retired early. It was their custom after a hard day in the fields where they toiled over cotton and truck vegetables to go to bed early. They had hardly adjusted themselves comfortably for the night when they heard a terrible noise.

Several men crashed through the front door, awaking three of Cobb's daughters; Claudine, 19; Ella Margaret, 13, and Emma Lillie, 12, who were sleeping in the front room. The children related how the band of 30 or 40 men in white robes laughed as they broke down the door. Hearing them enter the house Cobb grabbed his gun. When the men opened the door of his bedroom he fired. One of the men screamed and all of them began firing into the room, some through the door and some from the yard through the window.

Learns Wife Shot

Fifteen or twenty shots were fired, Cobb estimates, and then the white-robed marauders left. He slipped out the back door and ran 200 yards to the next farm house to get another gun.

Not until he returned with it did he learn that his wife, Lillie, 36, was shot through the abdomen. His children told him and like a wild man he ran after the alleged klan gang, his gun in his arm. When he got to the main road, a quarter of a mile away, where the raiders had parked their automobiles, he heard them drive away.

When he returned to his home, breathless, he sent one of his boys into Oneonta for a doctor. Dr. Myers examined Cobb's wife and ordered her to the hospital in Oneonta.

Then Cobb ran from neighbor to neighbor trying to get an automobile to carry her to the hospital. The klan had flogged several Negroes in the neighborhood the preceding week and one that night and all were afraid to aid Cobb.

Despairing he sent for Dr. Myers again and one of the neighbors agreed to bring his wife into town if the doctor would ride with them, which he did. Cobb was sheltered by other neighbors that night and on the following afternoon his wife died.

"Spotted" by Whites

He trudged into town to purchase a coffin and make funeral arrangements. On the streets he found the white population gathered in little groups of 20 to 30. As he passed they became silent and pointed at him knowingly.

Some of the white people, he said, who were his friends, advised him to flee the state to save his life. Others thought he would be safe to remain until the case was tried. Justice of Peace George Darden sought him out and offered to let him stay in jail for safety but Cobb thought that would be little protection from a gang of hoodlums.

Then Darden advised him to stay with neighbors, at a different house each night but not to stay in his own home. "I can protect you all right during the day," Darden told Cobb, "but it's impossible at night."

Circuit Court Judge Ollie Steel came from a nearby town and communicating with Cobb through his friends, advised him to leave the state. Satisfied that his life would be in jeopardy if he remained in the town any longer Cobb borrowed money from friends and left for Cleveland late that Tuesday night.

Cobb did not recognize any of the men in the alleged Ku Klux gang and believes they came from another small town nearby. Some klan members live in Oneonta, he believes.

"Down there when the klan in a town wants anything done," Cobb said, "they call on the klan of another town nearby to do it for them so they won't get into trouble so easily."

His belief is borne out by the fact that the home of Moses, the indicted man, is in another town nearby, according to Cobb.

After His Wife

The klan was after his wife that night rather than him, Cobb believes.

In Cleveland Cobb sought refuge with his mother and sister, Mrs. Mattie Bradley, who operates a tea room.

Realizing that he was not safe there if attempts to extradite him were made, his sister found a place for him in another part of the city. Only she knows where he can be found.

When he left Alabama Cobb was forced to leave his eight children behind him. Negro church societies in Cleveland gave him money to bring them to Cleveland.

NEW YORK TIMES

JUL 14 1927

NEW FLOGGING CASE BARED IN ALABAMA

Negro Forced to Sell His Farm Far Below Its Value, He Tells Sheriff.

FIVE FLORENCE ARRESTS

Two Women and Three Men Are Accused of Having Severely Beaten Mrs. Slay.

BIRMINGHAM, Ala., July 13 (AP).—Another link was added today to the chain of Alabama floggings when evidence was given Jefferson County authorities that Arthur Hitt, a negro farmer, had been severely whipped by a band of masked men and frightened into disposing of a tract of land for a sum far beneath its value.

Hitt was taken from his home, strapped to a tree and beaten unmercifully in what Sheriff Hartsfield said was the "very worst of all the flogging cases" brought to his attention.

The beating of the negro followed his refusal to dispose of his small tract of land. Three days after the whipping, however, he signed away his land, he said, for $900.

The story told by the negro is being investigated by Sheriff Hartsfield, with a view to restoring to him his property. If it is found authentic, Solicitor Davis of Jefferson County will take action against the purchaser of the property.

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But Alabama is another story. Within the past ten days three separate gangs of floggers have been at work. Attention has already been called to the case of Jeff Calloway, 19-year-old orphan, whom 18 automobile loads of floggers waited on liquor drinking; aroused, apparently, to such an extent that the only way to make an assault by a person at all remedy was flogging. Jeff was the first in sight and he caught it. Now of a misdemeanor, Governor Graves has been sworn out, 15 warrants have been issued, is issuing statements promising action, state officers are seeking evidence and the whole picture is one of a special term of court has been

of greater activity in this direction than Alabama has known in many years.

All of which would be an encouraging sign of determination to punish and prevent were it not for two additional facts. The first is that in the midst of this activity another flogging band in another part of the state set upon a young married woman, meantime holding off her husband, and beat her with limbs of trees and "a strap like a fan belt from an automobile." The second is that immediately following this achievement, still a third flogging band, in yet another part of the state, seized a 17-year-old boy in an automobile and whipped him with a "lash." Gang No. 1 was reported as wearing garments similar to kluckers; Gang No. 2, ditto; Gang No. 3, ditto again.

Following the latest flogging by Gang No. 2, Governor Graves has again promised action. Gang No. 3's job came too quick for another promise yet but no doubt that will come.

It must be discouraging for state officers. Every time they increase their activity, the gangs do likewise; and thus far the gangs are clearly ahead. But it is fairly safe to venture the prophecy—and we are quite willing to do it—that one smashing effort against a flogging gang, with convictions and stiff sentences, will send the others to their lairs, heads down and tails between legs. Your hooded flogger is essentially a cowardly dog. Alabama can prove that again if she wants to.

LEADERS OF KLAN TOLD TO EXPLAIN

Birmingham, Ala., July 28.—(AP)—James Esdale, grand dragon of the Alabama realm of the Ku Klux Klan, and officers of Birmingham units of the organization will be called before a special Jefferson county grand jury Tuesday, August 9, to "lay bare membership records" and "explain threats against Solicitor Davis by two alleged members of the klan," the county prosecutor announced today.

The grand jury action will be the first effort ever made in Alabama to bare klan membership records, Solicitor Davis said.

The announcement by the county prosecutor is the latest move in efforts of state and county authorities to clear up floggings in the state and follows specifically threats against the solicitor "to lay off prosecution" in the case of Arthur Hitt, negro, who was said to have been whipped and frightened into disposing of a tract of valuable land for a small sum.

Mr. Davis today announced he had again been threatened in the form of a postal card which bore the single word, "Stop."

SEVEN INDICTED ON LASH CHARGES

Birmingham, Ala., July 19.—(AP)—Fifteen persons were under arrest in three Alabama separated counties of the state tonight, awaiting trial on charges of participating in masked floggings in Alabama.

A special grand jury, sitting at Oneonta, late this afternoon indicted seven persons in connection with the whipping on June 6 of Jeff Calloway, 19-year-old Oneonta farm youth. Six had been arrested within a few minutes after the action had been completed by the grand jury and the seventh was expected by officials to be in custody soon.

Men Arrested.

Those arrested on charges of assault and battery and kidnaping were Eugene Doss, L. E. Clayton, Chester Clayton, Cliston Clayton, Peter Carlisle, Dr. L. S. Finnell, all of Tarrant City, Ala., and one man whose identity was withheld pending his arrest.

Bond of $5,000 was set for each charge of kidnaping and $500 for the assault and battery charges. None of the six men arrested had furnished bond tonight.

In Oneonta tonight Attorney General Charlie C. McCall, of Alabama, who personally directed the grand jury investigation, expressed himself as "highly pleased" with its outcome and added that he would press for immediate trials for the men under arrest.

At Florence, Ala., five persons, including two women, were being held in the Lauderdale county jail awaiting trial August 1 on charges of whipping Mrs. Bertha A. Clay, who told officers she had been bound to a barrel and lashed while her husband and sister were forcibly restrained in their beds.

Three Under Arrest.

Three men, including Ransom Warren, warden of a county convict camp, were under arrest in Jefferson county charged with the flogging of Hugh McSweeney and Pearl Boggs near Birmingham several weeks ago.

Jefferson county officials still were investigating the whipping of Arthur Hitt, negro, and Eston Murchison, 17-year-old Bessemer youth, and in Randolph county Assistant Solicitor Burns Parker was gathering evidence in the flogging of eight persons to be presented to a grand jury there.

Attorney General McCall said tonight that every effort would be made to "bring participants in masked floggings to justice." State investigators have been detailed by Governor Bibb Graves to aid local authorities in investigations.

Solicitor Tells Of Klan Threats In Flogging Case

Birmingham, Ala., July 26.—(AP)—In the face of threats that he "would get into trouble," Solicitor Jim Davis of Jefferson county, today conducted a grand jury investigation into the flogging two weeks ago of Arthur Hitt, negro, who is said to have been frightened into disposing of a tract of valuable land for a small sum.

The hearing, conducted in strict secrecy, opened at noon, and after hearing several witnesses, recessed "subject to call" without returning any indictments. Solicitor Davis said the body would probably meet again Thursday, or next Tuesday, and reiterated tonight that he had sufficient evidence to indict the men who whipped Hitt.

The grand jury convened today shortly after Solicitor Davis made public a signed statement in which he said two men, one of them "an officer of the Ku Klux Klan," had threatened him with trouble" if he continued his prosecution of the negro's alleged floggers.

Solicitor Warned.

The solicitor's statement said that the men told him that W. J. Worthington, who is shown on the couty real estate transfer records as the purchaser of Hitt's land, "was innocent" of any wrong in connection with the flogging and that I must lay off him, or that I would get into trouble."

Following the alleged effort to intimidate him, Solicitor Davis said, he immediately called a special session of the Jefferson county grand jury for Tuesday, August 2, "when these two men will be given an opportunity to tell what they know about the whipping of Hitt."

Shortly before the grand jury convened today Hitt was reported to have disappeared and the solicitor sent deputies in search of him. He was found living with his wife on a small plot of ground near his former farm. Mr. Davis immediately placed him under guard for safe keeping.

ALA. TURNS DOWN ANTI MOB BILL

Senate Kills Measure That Would Lead to Fight On Gangs of Floggers Terrorizing State.

MONTGOMERY, Ala., July 20.—(Special)—In the face of an epidemic of hooded floggings that has aroused the whole state, the Alabama senate refused by a 19 to 13 vote Tuesday to unmask the Ku Klux Klan. The Williams anti-mask bill was sidetracked and in its place the Ware bill, drawn in the office of Attorney General Charlie C. McCall, was substituted.

Six senators were absent when the vote was taken, and the group which fought with Senator Travis Williams for a law with enough teeth to break up existing conditions gave notice that a motion to reconsider will be made Friday. Fred Fite of Jefferson county made an unsuccessful attempt to rush the bill to the house without engrossment and block a reconsideration, even after L. H. Ellis of Shelby, chief sponsor of the Ware substitute, had withdrawn a similar motion and conceded that the opposition forces were entitled to a vote on their motion.

N. Y. WORLD

JUL 28 1927

THE MOB AND THE PROSECUTOR

Solicitor James Davis of Jefferson County, Ala., shows the right spirit. He is putting forth every effort to indict and prosecute the men who flogged a Negro farmer to coerce him into selling his land for one-sixth its value. Threatened with violence unless he dropped the prosecution, he has promptly summoned the authors of the threat before the Grand Jury on a charge of attempted intimidation.

This is a spirit which is more and more in evidence among public officers in the South, and which, properly supported by public sentiment, will effect a cure for mob violence. The Prosecutor of Toombs County, Ga., early this year checked an epidemic of floggings by masked bands when he obtained numerous indictments and five convictions in one batch. Not long ago officers in Florida fatally shot several members of a mob which was trying to seize a prisoner and lynch him; last year officers at Dallas killed five men who were trying to lynch two Negroes held in jail there. In recent months a North Carolina court has given sentences ranging up to thirty years to members of a mob which had mutilated a prisoner.

If honest and vigorous Public Prosecutors did not so often face the active opposition of community opinion the task of stamping out mob violence would be far easier. It is impossible for justice to rise above its fountainhead. The lynchings in Aiken, S. C., aroused the shocked indignation of the best people of the State; when John G. Richards became Governor he denounced the outrage and did his best to expedite justice; the County Solicitor laid full evidence before the Grand Jury, and Judge Johnson in his charge called vigorously for action. Yet majority sentiment in Aiken was indifferent and the jury refused to find a single indictment. As the Spartanburg Journal has just said, "law and justice were outraged" and yet "the craven, cowardly band who perpetrated this infamy are immune to constituted authority."

ALLEGED FLORIDA KIDNAPER CLEAREL

Orlando, Fla., July 29.—(AP)—William Mathews, charged with the kidnaping of J. A. Johnson, a newspaperman of Orlando, on the morning of June 15, was acquitted by a jury hearing the case today before Judge W. L. Tilden in the Orange county criminal court of record. The jury deliberated an hour and 15 minutes.

It was the second time that Mathews had been found not guilty. He was freed last week with five other men on a similar charge in connection with the alleged flogging of Charles Hicks.

As soon as the Mathews' jury retired the case of W. C. McCollum, also charged with kidnaping Johnson, was called. A jury was quickly secured and then excused until Monday morning.

McCollum also was one of those acquitted last week. The other four defendants in the case will be tried separately.

Johnson charged that he was taken from his home here and flogged. He maintained that no reason for the attack was given him.

ictory For People eclares McCal t Oneonta Tria

ONEONTA, ALA., Aug. 4.—Special to The Advertiser.—Attorney General McCall and associate counsel in the Jeff Calloway flogging cases are highly elated over the outcome of the Eugene Doss trial. It is the first case in Alabama in which a member of the Ku Klux Klan has been convicted for an offense against the laws of the state while wearing a mask and hood.

"This conviction will have a salutary and far-reaching effect," Mr. McCall said Thursday afternoon, after the Doss verdict had been read in court. "It is encouraging to think we can make the law into their own hands. The fact that a jury after listening to testimony in the case returned a verdict of guilty is going to act as a deterrent to others who may be inclined to [illegible] punishment to persons [illegible] think deserve it.

"The verdict not only [illegible] all the world [illegible] state are [illegible] lators [illegible] orderly [illegible]

"[illegible] people [illegible] who [illegible] men[illegible]

Ku Klux Klan - 1927

Alabama.

GLAZE AND DAVIS ARE INCRIMINATED BY STATE WITNESS

Warrants Issued Charging Kidnaping of Calloway But Pair Have Vanished; Other Arrests Expected

STATE RESTS IN CLAYTON'S TRIAL; VERDICT DELAYED

Inner Circle of Klan Described; Character Witnesses Are Placed on Stand

ONEONTA, ALA., Aug. 5.—Special to The Advertiser.—While officers sought A. J. Glaze and Ira Davis on charges of kidnaping as a result of disclosures in the trials of Eugene Doss and Lee Clayton for the flogging of Jeff Calloway, Oneonta orphan, the state today rested in the trial of Clayton.

Warrants for Glaze and Davis were issued Thursday upon order of Attorney General McCall, but no clues as to the whereabouts of the men was found in Tarrant City today.

Officers reported that they had not been seen either at their homes or at the places where they worked since Thursday morning. It was reported they attended the Thursday morning session of the Clayton trial.

The names of Glaze and Davis were involved in testimony offered by Tom Hughes and Oliver Tidwell, star witnesses for the state.

It is expected that a warrant will be issued early Saturday for a third man, as yet unnamed.

Defense tactics in the trial of L. A. Clayton took a decided change late today when summoning of additional witnesses pointed to an attempt by the defense today to establish an alibi for Clayton on the night of June 26. Nearly 100 witnesses had been summoned before the trial, and several were subpoenaed during the court ses-

The state closed its case against Clayton at 2:30 after cross examination of Oliver Tidwell had been completed. Tidwell and Tom Hughes were the bulwark of the state's case and deviated only slightly from the evidence they gave in the Doss case which resulted in Eugene Doss being found guilty and sentenced to a term in the penitentiary of not less than eight nor more than 10 years on charges identical with those for which Clayton is now on trial.

Slight deviations are only on matters of minute details and probably will have no effect at all upon the jury, although they have been called to the jury by the defense.

The first witness called by the defense was H. H. Smith, official court stenographer, who quoted from his stenographic notes made in the Doss case that portion of the evidence given by Hughes in which Hughes said that the cape worn by Clayton was green. In the Clayton trial Hughes referred to it as a blue cape, but this point is of minor consequence, attorneys said.

Gus Stracener was the second witness called. His testimony was to the effect that he had gone to Antioch church in mask and robe on the night of June 26 and that he had not seen L. A. Clayton either at Cheney's quarry, where the Tarrant City crowd put on their masks and robes, or at Antioch church.

Attorney General McCall, who cross examined Stracener, made the witness admit that he had not particularly looked for Clayton and also that the witness had ridden from Cheney's quarry to a point somewhere beyond Village Springs without knowing any of the men in the car in which he was riding.

Knew Auto

He made Stracener admit that he knew whose car he was in and managed to get before the jury by questions whose answers were objected to by the defense, that Stracener apparently was trying to conceal the identity of Klan members who went to Antioch church.

Following Stracener on the stand came the army of character witnesses whose feeble attempts to tear down the character and reputation of Tom Hughes produced considerable amusement while they were being cross examined by Asistant Attorney General John J. Haynes.

The first character witness called was Chester Dallis who said he was a rural mail carrier of Tarrant City and that he is not a Klansman.

On direct examination Dallas testified that he knew the character and reputation of Tom Hughes and that it is bad.

Under the fire of Haynes' cross examination Dallas' statements shook considerably when Haynes drew forth the fact that the witness' knowledge of Hughes was based on the personal experiences of four men who had had unsatisfactory business dealings with Hughes.

Haynes' method of attack is a rapid fire of questions in which he seeks to pin the witness down to specific instances pulled from the generalities first stated by the witness.

The rapidity of the attack and the unusualness of questions with the resultant effect upon the witness provided mild amusement even for Judge Steele.

The next three character witnesses called were G. H. Rhodes, the Rev. W. A. Green and Mayor Self of Tarrant City, who suffered a like fate.

Tension observed in the courtroom during the Doss trial was lacking Friday, only about 75 spectators being in the courtroom when Judge Steele called for order at 8:30, and an hour later the number did not exceed 150.

John Thomas Hughes took the stand as a state witness immediately after court convened. He testified that he lived in Mt. Pinson, that prior to and on June 26, 1927, he was an automobile salesman employed by the Industrial Chevrolet company of Bessemer; that he is a member of the Tarrant City klan and that he was in Tarrant City the afternoon of June 26.

He identified Lee A. Clayton as one of the klansmen whom he saw at Tarrant City on that day. He said he had known Clayton seven or eight years; that he konws Clinton and Chester Clayton. Also he said he knows Eugene Doss and Amos Covington; that he was initiated into the Tarrant City klan about five or six weeks prior to June 26, and that L. A. Clayton was a member of the Tarrant City klan at that time and that Clayton was an officer in the klan, but he didn't know what office it was.

The witnes stestified he never saw Clayton in robe and mask except one time; that the office he held then had nothing to do with the klan. He described the regalia worn by Clayton, which, he said, consisted of a white robe, blue cape, white trousers and an shoes turned up at the end.

The witness said he saw a pistol holster attached to the belt at Clayton's left side; that the holster had glass around the edge.

Sold Him Car

He said he had had some talk with L. A. Clayton about buying an automobile; that he sold Clifton Clayton, son of L. A. Clayton, an automobile, a green Chevrolet touring car, four or five weeks prior to June 26, and that Clifton Clayton still owned the car on June 26.

From a diagram drawn on a blackboard, the witness pointed out the relative position of the seven or eight cars that parked in the side road where, he said, all of the parties put on their robes and masks. He said after staying there 10 or 15 minutes they pulled out for Oneonta; that they stopped in Oneonta four or five or six minutes; that a small man got on the running board of Clayton's car, and after a minute or two got off. He said he also saw Sheriff Nations on the streets of Oneonta.

After the small man got off the running board of the Clayton car all of the cars proceeded to Antioch church.

Arriving at Antioch church, the witness said, the cars were parked four or five abreast on the right-hand side of the church. He said they stood around a few minutes, and as it was time for services to begin, went inside the church. He did not go in the church, he said, but stood on the side doorstep part of the time and on the running board of a Cadillac car part of the time. An American flag was on the Cadillac hood and a siren horn on the running board.

He testified that the next time he saw L. A. Clayton was just as the services ended; that he recognized Clayton by his robe, cape, shoes and pistol holster. The witness testified that a party coming from a little shack across the road from the church shoved him aside, snapped his fingers and said, "Where is there a klan officer?"

Immediately L. A. Clayton came out and the man turned and went back toward the shack L. A. Clayton following him.

Walked Rapidly

He said they walked fast to the Clayton Chevrolet car and then he saw four or five men coming from the shack. One man with them, he said, was not robed but had on blue overalls and jumper and that this man was about the size of Jeff Calloway. He said they got in the Clayton car, the man in overalls in the back seat between two robed and masked men. Two robed and masked men were on the front seat and two robed and masked men were on the running board, he said.

After they got in the car pulled out toward ness said, the green ront, followed by a Ford coupe, an old Ford touring car and Hughes' car; that they maintained this order to Oneonta and on to the scene of the Clay road near Mt. Pinson.

When they had gone about 150 or 200 yards in the side road, the witness said, a man got out of the front car came back to his car and asked, "Who is in this car?" Someone said, "All have got blue capes, except Hughes, and we are not afraid of him." The man then went back to the green Chevrolet and got in and all the cars went on to a fork in the road where they took the left fork and went about a mile or a mile and a half and stopped, he said.

When they stopped, Hughes testified, all the occupants of the cars got out, including the man in the blue jeans overalls and felt hat, who is said to have been Calloway, and went into the woods.

L. A. Clayton, however, remained near the cars, and came back and talked to Hughes, who was sitting under the wheel.

Opening it up put one finger in it and opening it up, put on finger in it and told Hughes to repeat after him. Under repeated questioning Hughes was unable to recall any more of the oath administered than "I do solemnly promise and swear."

All through the direct examination Wilkinson was objecting constantly but his objections were overruled.

The rest of the testimony, under direct examination, recited the details of what Hughes knew about the alleged flogging and continued to a point where the masked figures were unrobed and were identified by Hughes as being L. A. Clayton, Eugene Doss, Pete Carlisle, Chester Clayton, Amos Covington, Oliver Tidwell and A. J. Glaze.

Shortly after they unrobed, Doss and Carlisle administered another oath which they termed "taking another degree."

Hughes further admitted that since he had testified in Solicitor Jim Davis' office regarding what occurred on the night of June 26 he had received threats, particularly from Clayton, who he said drew his finger across his throat while standing in Davis' office. This point was brought out in the previous trial.

Wilkinson Starts

At this point the witness was turned over to Wilkinson for cross-examination.

Wilkinson attempted to trip the witness on the color of the capes worn by the masked figures, but was unable to do so.

He tried to mage Hughes say he said the capes were green in the Doss trial while in this trial he said they were blue.

Wilkinson went into considerable details concerning the oath administered by Clayton and tried to elicit information from Hughes regarding the subject mattter of the oath.

One question by Wilkinson brought a laugh in the courtroom when he asked the witness:

"Are you required to swear by the horns of a billygoat, or the wings of an eagle?"

The witness replied, "I found neither the horns of a billygoat nor the wings of an eagle that night."

Another laugh was injected in the proceedings when Judge Steele attempted to help Wilkinson attain information about the oath when questioning developed that L. A. Clayton is an alleged member of an inner circle of the klavern called the klaveliers.

Judge Steele asked the witness, "Is the klaveliers the whipping squad?" but withdrew the question upon a storm of protest from Wilkinson.

Shortly afterward on redirect examination the witness testified that he had been told by Dr. Fennell in the presence of Clayton that the klan had several hundred dollars in the treasury to be used in fighting any indictments that might be obtained against them and that Hughes could go back and change his testimony given to McCall on which the indictments were obtained because this testimony had not been given before a jury. A few moments later the witness was recalled to the stand and court recessed for five minutes.

Tidwell was to be called to the stand when court got under way again.

Oliver Tidwell, 24, of Tarrant City, an automobile mechanic, testified that he is now and was, June 26, a member of the Ku Klux Klan in good standing and also was a member of the klaveliers which he described as an inner circle of the Ku Klux Klan.

The klaveliers, he said, acted as guards, guides, instructors and leaders in parades. He said he had drilled two nights with the klaveliers about 30 minutes. Clyde Copeland, he said, is chief of the Tarrant City klaveliers. He mentioned as members of the Tarrant City klaveliers, Pete Carlisle, L. A. Clayton, Amos Covington, Eugene Doss, a man named Ratliff, A. J. Glaze, Ira Davis and Cleve Coleman. He said Dr. L. S. Fennell was exalted cyclops of the Tarrant City klan, that L. A. Clayton, the defendant, is a member of the klan.

The witness said he was not at the meeting when the invitation to attend the Antioch church service was given, but someone told him about it and he went down to the hall to go with the party.

The testimony Tidwell gave in this case corresponded in all essential details with the testimony he gave in the Doss case.

Among the new features brought out by him was the statement that a man named Gray made a speech during the services and that Dr. L. S. Fennell also spoke.

He said, among other things, Dr. Fennell said something about boys and girls going in swimming and that his wife and daughter though he was a grizzly bear.

One of the speakers, who is said to be a preacher, talked about bootlegging.

The witness said he rode on the running board of the car in which Calloway was taken from Antioch church to the scene of the whipping and gave the names of the robed and masked men who were in the car with Calloway.

Mrs. Callie Jackson, wife of W. C. Jackson, recited parts of talks made at the Antioch church the night of June 26. On the stand, she quoted:

"Look out you bootleggers, we are going to get you and you will eat on the mantlepiece for a long time."

"The first man to preach," she said "did not have on a mask and robe. He preached a nice sermon."

The next on the platform, she added, talked about bootleggers and told his audience to tell them what he had said but not who said it. He said they had "come up here to get the bootleggers," she testified.

The third seaker spoke of boys and girls sitting around the church in buggies, making love, she stated.

JEFFERSON LASH CASES POSTPONED ON DEFENSE PLEA

McCall Agrees To Delay Until Jan. 2 to Await Decision in Oneonta Appeals of Doss and Clayton

NICE POINT IS RAISED ON KIDNAPING STATUTE

'Will Not Let Up' Declares Attorney General, 'But Will Give Them Hell'

BIRMINGHAM, ALA., Oct. 17.—Special to The Advertiser.—Trial of nine flogging cases in Jefferson county which were scheduled to open today were postponed upon request of the defense by Judge McCoy this afternoon until January 2, after the prosecution had acquiesced to the plea of the defense that a decision of just what constituted kidnaping, now before the court of appeals, would expedite the trial.

Attorney General McCall, following the announcement, made it clear that the agreement of the prosecution to continue the cases does not indicate, in any sense, an interval or even a pause in his campaign to rid Alabama of mask and lash rule.

"I shall not let up," he declared. "I'm going to rid the state of this flogging business if I have to devote the rest of my administration to it. I'm going to [illegible] about the same thing they have given their victims."

It was pointed out by the attorney general, that one of the principal reasons given by the defense in Jefferson county, in requesting a continuance of the flogging cases there, was the hope that within the next few weeks, the Alabama court of appeals might be able to pass on the question arising in the cases of Clayton and Doss appealed from Blount county, as to whether the facts brought out in those cases, constituted kidnaping within the statute dealing with that subject.

"For my own part," Attorney General McCall said, "while of course it is not for me to judge now, I am convinced that the facts brought out in the Blount county cases, clearly brings those cases within the kidnaping statute. However, I want to be perfectly fair. I have no desire to be placed in the attitude of trying to make a political affair of all the efforts that have been put forth in Blount, Jefferson, Crenshaw and elsewhere, and inasmuch as the question is one of equal importance to the state and to the defense, and also because of the fact that my health is somewhat broken as a result of tremendous strain, and then too, because of the fact that some of the important witnesses were absent, a limited continuance was agreeable to me. Now then, I shall not let up.

On October 31, the attorney general's department has to prosecute three cases in Marengo county, growing out of the flogging of a negro there. On November 21 trial of flogging cases begins in Crenshaw county. It is obvious, therefore, that during the next two months, Attorney General McCall will have his hands full in disposing of accused floggers elsewhere than in Jefferson county. It should be borne in mind also that he has said regarding "this flogging business," that "I shall not let up."

Trials of those indicted in connection with the lashings of Arthur Hitt, or John Bolton, were sounded shortly after 9:30 Monday morning. Though several witnesses failed to answer for [illegible]ate, John J. Haynes, assistant [illegible]y general, moved to have the [illegible]nity to resummon witnesses who had not answered to their names.

A skirmish ensued between Horace Wilkinson and Haynes, Wilkinson stating that he had working men summoned as witnesses, that he was a working man himself, and that he did not want to lose any more time than was necessary.

Roderick Beddow, who represents W. J. Worthington, when he found that Worthington's case was not going to be called by the state, made an attempt to have that case sounded.

According to local attorneys, it's a nice question of law that Horace Wilkinson and Roderick Beddow have raised on section 3189 of the Alabama penal code, which deals with the charge of kidnaping.

The section reads: "Any person who forcibly or unlawfully confines, inveigles or entices away another, with intent to cause him to be secretly confined or imprisoned against his will or to be sent out of the state against his will must, on conviction, be imprisoned in the penitentiary for not less than two nor more than 10 years."

Wilkinson contends that there can be no such thing as "forcible inveiglement," that the word inveigle means to trick or lure, and does not include the idea that force could become a part of such procedure.

On the other hand, prosecuting attorneys say that the moment the man has been secretly detained by force that he has been kidnaped—for the question of duration of imprisonment does not enter into the law.

Wilkinson urged that the cases be continued until the court of appeals can decide the constitutionality of the law covering kidnaping. Should the court take Attorney Wilkinson's view of the law, convictions under it would have no value, he said, and the county's money would be lost, as well as clogging the court with a lot of unnecessary work.

Prosecution attorneys say that should the court of appeals reverse the Oneonta cases, the law allows them to reindict the persons involved on any charges the state can prove. The Jefferson county cases, however, should they go on trial on the present counts, and lose in the higher court, the cases would be forever closed, so far as the state is concerned, for a man cannot be tried a second time for the same offense, after having once been acquitted.

In the meantime, McCall and his entire office will continue investigation of masked outrages, to the very limit of their abilities, it was stated. Time and labor will not be spared to probe to the bottom of all acts of masked violence that comes to his attention, the attorney general stated.

According to Wilkinson, the bill of exceptions in appealed cases are in the hands of Judge Steele, of Gadsden, the trial judge, and should be returned to his office within the next few days. Wilkinson believes he can get the case before the court of appeals within the next two or three weeks.

Judge Steele was reported ill in a hospital at Gadsden late Monday and could not be reached for a statement as to when he would sign and return the bills of exception which have been filed with him.

M'CALL'S KLAN INDICTMENT.

In resigning from the Ku Klux Klan, Attorney General McCall, of Alabama, gave publicity to one of the severest indictments ever made against that organization.

In declaring it "the greatest menace to organized authority," and in charging that its state officials not only refuse aid to law enforcement, but encourage the violations of law, the attorney general, of course, fastens the floggings in Crenshaw and Butler counties directly upon the klan and substance charges that they were ordered by, or certainly had the sanction, of the high officials of the organization.

This charge is of such directness that it will necessarily call for further legal action. If the Alabama klan officials are guilty of abetting floggings, night-riding and other violations of law, and of defiance of constituted authority, then the same conditions may exist in every state in which the klan maintains an organization.

In Crenshaw county, Alabama, there have been 25 mob outrages committed in the last two years. Some of those severely flogged were women. A preacher of the gospel has been indicted for flogging a woman. He is an "exalted cyclops" of the klan. He promptly disappeared and has not been apprehended.

It is such acts as this, committed by moral leaders, that have done much, unfortunately, to bring the pulpit into disrepute and to injure the church.

Most ministers of the gospel are good men, but there is evidently too much negligence in the licensing of preachers. That many of them, especially in rural sections, are alleged members of the klan, and leaders in night-riding activities, is extremely hurtful to denominational religion.

In Crenshaw county, Alabama, 102 indictments have been returned by a special grand jury, naming 28 men. Eight men have been indicted for flogging in Butler county.

Only after long and bitter agitation in the press was this action of the grand jury taken.

In Alabama the Ku Klux Klan has been a power in politics. Most of the state officials, it is said, belong to it. The very plain words of the attorney general, who was a member, and whose eyes were opened by his recent investigation, may have the effect of materially lessening its influence.

No Place For Klan In Alabama Now Says Judge Clayton

"Go back home, counsel your people to be law abiding and above all see that this masking business is stopped," said Judge Henry D. Clayton in dismissing federal court jurors yesterday.

"This whipping by men masked in the robes of the Ku Klux Klan is a disgrace to the state," continued Judge Clayton. "What could be more cowardly than masked men whipping helpless women and girls? It is time that the Klan should be disbanded."

"Counsel your neighbors not to take the law in their own hands," continued Judge Clayton. "The courts are the place for adjudication of differences and for prosecution of those who may be guilty of violating the law. It is not for masked individuals to take the law into their own hands."

"There is no place for the klan in Alabama now and I hope you good citizens will go home and if there is such an organization in your counties you will use your influence to have it disbanded."

ALABAMA GUARDS LASH WITNESSES

Montgomery, Ala., October 25.—(United News.)—Four arrests and possibly more may be made this week in Crenshaw county for intimidating witnesses at the recent grand jury flogging investigation, Assistant General John J. Hayes announced today. The announcement was made in behalf of Attorney General Charles C. McCall, who was out of the city.

Hayes said the attorney general's office had been investigating reports of a number of the witnesses and was almost ready to make the first arrests.

Those accused of threatening witnesses were among the 45 indicted two weeks ago by the grand jury which investigated Crenshaw county floggings.

After receiving reports some of his witnesses had been threatened, McCall announced he had advised them to protect themselves as best they could, and that he intended asking Governor Bibb Graves to give them protection. Governor Graves has sent chief deputies, to Crenshaw county to protect the witnesses.

Chief State Law Enforcement Officer Walter K. McAdory, with several

Ku Klux Klan—1927

Alabama.

LASH AND MASKS LINKED TO DEATHS, M'CALL DECLARES

Attorney General Says 150 Involved in Floggings, Other Outrages That Held County in Grip

NOW AT LUVERNE TO PUSH JURY CHARGES

93 Specific Cases Over 18 Months Period in State Under Investigation

That Crenshaw county has been the seat of a reign of terror and that citizens have been practically at the mercy of bands of masked and robed men, was the startling statement of Attorney General Charlie C. McCall, last night. Attorney General McCall has been investigating the lawless outrages in Crenshaw county for the past several weeks and is in Luverne, the county seat, today, preparing to place the results of his investigations before the grand jury.

Practically 150 persons are involved in the series of floggings, kidnapings, and resulting deaths, eight unmerciful floggings in Crenshaw county alone, General McCall said. "Ninety per cent of the floggings, kidnappings and deaths which I have investigated in Crenshaw county were the result of the lawless acts of masked and robed men," General McCall declared.

General McCall's statement in full, as made at Luverne last night, is as follows:

"I am in the course of an investigation of twenty or more floggings occurring in Crenshaw county, some of them very recently, and expect to take all these matters before the grand jury. If the investigation develops there will be practically 150 parties involved as floggers.

"In my judgment, after investigating the matters over a period of several weeks, I am of the opinion that conditions in the rural sections of Crenshaw county have reached the point where a regular reign of terror has existed there. People have been whipped unmercifully, kidnaped and taken from their homes, and in several instances beaten to the point where death later resulted.

"I am not in a position to give publicity, at this moment, to the names of these victims. I want to ask the cooperation of the newspapers and the public generally in this respect, to the end that this serious situation may be successfully handled.

"I have under investigation at the present time in the state of Alabama, 93 floggings and kidnapings that have occurred in the past 18 months.

"In my investigation of the outrages in Crenshaw county, I have found that 90 per cent of these cases were the result of the lawless acts of masked and robed men."

KLAN DOMINATION SCORED BY BONNER

Senator Opens Campaign For Supreme Court With Ringing Attack On Order

Declaring that Ku Klux Klan domination in Alabama must cease if peace, law and order are to prevail, Sen. J. M. Bonner, of Camden, opened his campaign at the Montgomery County courthouse last night for a place on the Supreme Court bench of Alabama. Sen. Bonner was introduced to the audience by Jesse B. Hearin, in the absence of Mayor William A. Gunter, who had been scheduled to perform that function.

Mr. Hearin presented Mr. Bonner as a man of courage and integrity; a man who had always been found fighting in the open and a man whose friendship for Montgomery is attested by the fact that Mayor Gunter was prevented by illness from presiding at the meeting.

Sen. Bonner launched into what he termed the issues of the campaign after briefly reviewing his record as a legislator in three administrations. He claimed that his record showed that he had been for prohibition when that position was very unpopular. He stated that he had consistently opposed extravagance in government. Had opposed any nuisance tax and all salary raises.

He read from resolutions recently adopted by the Alabama State Baptist Convention condemning the activities of the Ku Klux Klan in Alabama. He also took occasion to tell his audience that his opponent, Judge Lucien D. Gardner had told him yesterday that he (Judge Gardner) was not a member of the klan.

Refers to Esdale Edict

Sen. Bonner charged that the klan has attempted to tear away from the Constitution the guarantee of life liberty and property. He referred to the edict said to have been sent out by Grand Dragon James Esdale last January, that only klansmen be placed on the jury commissions, and said that the evident intent of this step was to follow it up by seeing to it that only klansmen were placed in the jury box and that only klansmen were elected to the court benches.

Applause greeted the statement "My God, my God, is it not enough to arouse the fighting spirit of every true American and make us throw into the challenge: 'You shall not control the courts of this free land'." He suggested that the voters ask candidates for office three questions before pledging support. These questions follow: "Are you a member of the Ku Klux Klan?" "Have you ever been a member of the Ku Klux Klan?" and "What is your present attitude toward the Ku Klux Klan?"

The speaker stated that if any of his friends who pledged to support him before the issue was announced and wished to withdraw that support on account of his fight against the klan that he will freely release them from their promise. He indicted the klan on ten counts as follows:

"1. For that it is a pernicious political organization.

"2. For that it has flogged hundreds of helpless victims.

"3. For that it has denied the right of trial by jury.

"4. For that it has defied the courts of the land.

"5. For that it has sought to muzzle a free press.

"6. For that it has challenged the supremacy of the state.

"7. For that it has preached and practiced a gospel of hate.

"8. For that it has committed a thousand crimes.

"9. For that it has denied religious liberty in free America.

"10. For that it has profaned the cross of Christ."

Sen. Bonner stated that, while his election would give him great personal gratification, he declared that this was not enough, but that the grip of "this organization which places the klan oath above the oath to our courts, and which hides its face behind a cowardly mask must be driven from power." He closed with the declaration that "no invisible empire of grand dragons, great titans and exalted cyclops shall rule a free people."

About fifty persons heard and applauded the high points in the speech which lasted about 45 minutes.

GEORGE THIGPEN IS ALSO HAILED BEFORE GAMBLE

State Insurance Commissioner Released, However, When He Explains He Didn't Know Answers to Questions

DAVIS BEGINS SENTENCE; LOYAL TO KLAN OATH

Esdale To Testify Today; McCall Brands Confession Reports Without Foundation

By HAROLD W. STEVENS
Staff Correspondent

LUVERNE, ALA., Oct. 13.—Hailed before Judge A. E. Gamble this afternoon on a charge of refusing to answer questions before the grand jury, Cecil Davis, of Birmingham, reputed grand titan of the Ku Klux Klan in Alabama was sentenced to five days in the Crenshaw jail for contempt of court.

Davis stood upon the obligation of his oath not to reveal secrets of the invisible empire when the questions were put and accepted the sentence without comment.

Immediately after Davis was sentenced, George H. Thigpen, state superintendent of insurance and alleged titan of the klan for the southern province was hailed before Judge Gamble on a similar charge.

Mr. Thigpen before Judge Gamble withdrew the explanation that he had previously given the grand jury as to why he did not answer the questions Mr. Thigpen had told the jury, it was revealed in court, that an answer would be a violation of his oath to the order.

He told Judge Gamble, however that he did not know the answer to the questions. The explanation was accepted by the court and the charge against him dismissed.

Esdale To Appear.

James Esdale, grand dragon of the Ku Klux Klan in Alabama, will be questioned tomorrow by the grand jury. This was learned today when the klan head returning to Birmingham after a trip outside of the state wired Attorney General Charlie McCall, that he had just learned of the summons for him and would present himself before the grand jury if he was wanted.

Mr. McCall immediately telegraphed Esdale to report tomorrow "if possible." The attorney general has not indicated in what connection the klan head will be questioned.

This fact, coupled with the recall today of George H. Thigpen, state superintendent of insurance, and four men who are alleged to have taken part in Crenshaw county floggings, was taken as an indication that the grand jury will make no report before tomorrow night at the earliest.

Mr. McCall took occasion today to vigorously deny published reports on yesterday that the four men, Shelby Gregory, J. P. Williamson, Phaxton and Maxie Miller, had turned state's evidence, confessed their parts in the masked floggings, and implicated others.

The questions asked Davis were: "Is Ira B. Thompson the exalted cyclops of the Luverne klavern?" "Who were some of these present at certain meetings which you attended?" "Have certain members of the Luverne klavern robes?"

Seated in the witness chair, at the beginning of the hearing, which was called after Davis' refusal to answer the questions, Davis told Judge Gamble that he did not answer the questions before the grand jury because they were irrelevant, a statement which drew, "that's not what you told the grand jury," from Attorney General Charlie C. McCall, at once.

Told Must Answer.

Judge Gamble told Davis he would have to answer the questions. Davis immediately asked leave to speak to his attorney. Leaving the court room for a minute he returned with Arthur B. Chilton, Montgomery attorney, and reputed member of the Ku Klux Klan. Brought before the judge, he was asked what he had to say as to why sentence should not be passed upon him.

"I have taken a previous oath which will preclude my revealing the identity of any members of the Ku Klux Klan. I am willing to testify as to what I know of the guilt of any member of the organization but I am not willing to give its secrets away. I took a solemn oath that I would not reveal the identity of a klansman. If I knew the identity of one who had committed a crime I would testify who it was, but I cannot tell who its members are without breaking my oath," he said.

"It is the duty of every citizen to answer every pertinent question put before him by a grand jury," Judge Gamble told him. 'No oath can be taken which will do away with the obligation to perform that duty. His duty to the state is the first duty of every citizen, and no oath which a citizen may take can give him immunity from the demand of the state for his testimony.

"The questions, the solicitor has told me, are pertinent to the issues before the grand jury. As such they are necessary and, unless they tend to incriminate you, in which case you have your constitutional protection, you may not refuse to testify. Your refusal to answer the questions is contempt of court," the judge concluded.

McCall Explains.

Attorney General McCall then asked permission of the court to explain his position in the matter. "I, nor none of the gentlemen who are with me, wish to persecute or pry into the secrets of any organization in Crenshaw county or anywhere else. But here in Crenshaw county we have encountered a peculiar situation, the evidence which has been given before the grand jury has a tendency to show that several floggings, as well as other felonies, have been committed by men wearing the robes of the Ku Klux Klan, an organization, by the way, which lives under the protection of the laws of the state of Alabama.

"The evidence tends to show that some of these outrages have been born and nurtured in the halls of the klavern of Luverne.

"The evidence also tends to show that some of the records were shipped out of Crenshaw county. The same thing was done in Blount county, the records there were shipped to Atlanta.

"And those records deal with the very same things which the grand jury

of Crenshaw county is now investigating.

"Mr. Davis says that he cannot answer the questions which have been put to him and pleads his former oath given the Ku Klux Klan. Nothing could be more material to the investigation than the questions which we have asked Mr. Davis and which he refuses to answer.

"He admits that he attended a meeting of the Klan, and we have evidence to show that at meetings about that time things which are now being investigated by the grand jury were planned. It is not curiosity as to what their secrets are that prompted the question, it was duty."

Arthur Chilton, arguing Mr. Davis's cause, stated that no oath which a Klansman takes, so far as he knows, places him above the authority of the state of Alabama. He declared that a Klansman, as any other citizen, ought to go before the bar of justice and testify what he knows.

Klansman Should Testify

"If a conspiracy were gotten up in a klavern, a Klansman who was there should testify what took place, and give the identity of the men who were present." Here Mr. Chilton drew his distinction. 'Unless bona-fide evilence is given a Klansman that the answer to the question put to him is necessary and pertinent to the issue involved, he should not be forced to violate his oath, or at least," he argued, it should be made plain to the judge in the case that the questions were relevant."

Judge Gamble ruled that Davis must answer the questions or suffer the consequence. The questions were put to him again, and upon his refusal to answer, he was adjudged in contempt of court and sentenced to five days in the Crenshaw county jail, unless in the meantime, he should decide to purge himself of contempt.

The hearing given Davis was the climax of a long day which, except for the constant passage of witnesses into and out of the court room, was without a feature. The investigations of the grand jury are being conducted quietly, and the little town of Luverne is pursuing its affairs without apparent interruption.

Attorney General McCall's policy of keeping everything connected with the investigation secret, and divulging nothing as to what he knows, is having its effect. In the words of one of the courthouse attaches at Luverne, "I have never seen such interest in grand jury session, or so many worried faces hanging around, in the ten years I have been about the courthouse.

Wednesday night, it was learned this morning, a group of three men, one of whom is reputed to be one of the prisoners in the Montgomery county jail, climbed to the second floor of a building immediately across the street from the hotel at which Attorney General McCall is stopping. From a window they peered across the street into the room occupied by the attorney general. They were observed by a member of the attorney general's office, who folowing them into the street as they left the building, overtook and severely reprimanded them for their actions.

SECRECY SHROUDS M'CALL'S ACTIONS ON EVE OF TRIALS

Attorney General and Birmingham Solicitor Confer on Plans For Prosecution of Flogging Cases

CHARGE OF PERSECUTION SUGGESTED BY DEFENSE

Sensational Developments Predicted As Progress of Testimony Unfolds

BIRMINGHAM, ALA., Oct. 16.—Special to The Advertiser.—Srouded in secrecy, Attorney General Charles McCall, Solicitor Jim Davis and special investigators held a conference in McCall's room at the Hillman hotel late Sunday afternoon, planning the final details in the prosecution of W. J. Worthington, Julius Lumpkin, L. C. Allbright and others under indictment in connection with Jefferson county floggings, for the trials which will begin in Judge John P. McCoy's court, Monday.

"I have nothing to make public at the present time, McCall said, "but as presentation of the evidence progresses, developments of a sensational nature will come out."

Julius Lumpkin will probably be the first of the nine men who will face Judge McCoy, McCall said, but are subject to change at the last moment.

Basis for the defense, at least in the Worthington case, will rest on what Rodderick Beddow, attorney for Worthington, says is a "theory of persecution."

Nine Under Indictment

Nine men are under indictment for kidnaping or bribery in connection with the flogging of Arthur Hitt, aged negro land owner, or of John Bolton, former proprietor of a soft drink and barbecue stand on the Lewisburg road.

Hitt was flogged and forced to sell his farm. Courthouse records showed W. J. Worthington was the purchaser, the deed being filed a few days after the alleged whipping took place.

Bolton was twice flogged, the second time his place of business being destroyed by fire at the hands of masked raiders.

Both state and defense have summoned numerous witnesses while interest in the trials will attract many spectators to the courtrooms, especially during the Worthington and Allbright trials.

Worthington in Cafe Raids

Worthington became prominent in the city when he was tried in police court for disorderly conduct in connection with the Ku Klux Klan raids on the Chinese restaurants, which occurred nearly two years ago. Since then he has figured in news items several times in connection with prohibition activities.

Asked about the conference with Gov. Bibb Graves, conferred with Jim Esdale, Horace Wilkinson and other high Klan officials in the former's office in Montgomery Saturday, McCall said, "none of the officials of the Klan have been to my office and any conference that I may have with Klan heads will be in open court with the judge presiding."

TRIALS BEGIN IN BIRMINGHAM

BIRMINGHAM, ALA., Oct. 16.—(AP)—The first of eleven men recently indicted on charges of flogging two white men and a negro, will go on trial in Jefferson county circuit court here tomorrow, with Attorney General Charlie C. McCall directing the prosecution.

Mr. McCall, who has just returned from Crenshaw county, where he directed the grand jury investigation of floggings in that county, tonight declared he believed that convictions would result from the trials here.

Julius Lumpkin, indicted for flogging, will be the first of the eleven men to face trial. Trial of W. J. Worthington, prominent Birmingham attorney, indicted for bribery and kidnaping, in connection with the whipping of Arthur Hitt, a negro, following his refusal to sell the farm on which he made his home, is expected to be called at an early date. Hitt, it is alleged, was frightened into selling his farm for $900, considerably below its estimated value, after being flogged repeatedly and threatened by a masked band. The real estate transfer records showed Worthington as the purchaser.

In addition to Worthington and Lumpkin, other men to be tried on charges growing out of masked whippings are: Louis C. Albright, Lee A. Clayton, Eugene Doss, Ira Davis, Andrew Glaze, J. O. Sizemore, C. J. Seale, Ellis Ratliffe and J. A. Clayton.

Judge John P. McCoy of the Jefferson county circuit court, will preside at the trial of Lumpkin, the first of the eleven men to face the flogging charges in court.

To Personally Direct Work

Attorney General McCall will personally direct the prosecution. The Jefferson county flogging trials will mark the third sensational battle against masked lawlessness into which Mr. McCall has led forces of the state. He has emerged victorious from each of the previous two. A Crenshaw county grand jury sitting at Luverne yesterday returned 102 indictments in connection with the masked lashings of 20 or more persons and conducted a sensational and sweeping investigation into the innermost workings of the Ku Klux Klan, reporting at the end of the probe that it was convinced that men at the head of the organization were "unworthy of trust."

All of the indictments were against members of the Ku Klux Klan, the jury reported to Judge A. E. Gamble, the presiding jurist, and in every case except one, "the floggings were committed by members of the klan."

Esdale Draws Jury Fire

The Crenshaw county grand jury likened conditions in Crenshaw county to those existing during the Spanish inquisition, and singled out James Esdale, grand dragon of the klan in Alabama and other men high in the councils of the "invisible empire" as being "derelict to their duty as citizens in their conduct of klan affairs."

"This barbaric terrorism of the rule of lash and mask can be attributed directly to evil leadership in the Ku Klux Klan, at war with the constituted authorities," the report said.

Attorney General McCall indicated trial of the 45 persons mentioned by the indictments probably would begin November 21. No indication of the names of the indicted persons was given, and their identity will be unknown until warrants are issued for their arrest.

Previous to the Crenshaw county investigation, Attorney General McCall personally prosecuted seven men indicted for flogging Jeff Calloway, a farm youth, at Oneonta, in Blount county. All of the seven were given long term prison sentences.

TWENTY-FOUR HELD ON FLOGGING BONDS

Seventeen Remain To Be Arrested in Crenshaw Roundup; Four in Butler

One week after the special grand jury of Crenshaw county had completed its work, 24 of the 37 men against whom 102 indictments were returned by the grand jury have been arrested. All have been released on bond.

Twenty of the men taken into custody were residents of Crenshaw county and four of Butler. The Crenshaw county men are: Thaxton Miller, five cases; Pres Skipper, five cases; Rufus Welch, nine cases; Charles Helms, three cases; Luther Holley, two cases; Will Graydon two cases; Glenn Moody two cases; Maxie Miller, four cases; Ira B. Thompsn, one case; Andrew Thurstad, two cases; Cue Bozeman three cases; Shelby Gregory, nine cases; Joe Thomas, two cases; Dewey Bolling, three cases; Roy Helms, three cases; James T. Williamson, three cases and W. C. Stalling, eight cases; I. D. Hawkins, one case of kidnaping, and Walton Wolf, three of kidnaping and one assault with intent to murder, and George Bruton, kidnaping and assault to murder.

The Butler county men who have been arrested are: Jack Jones, one case of kidnaping; Oscar Edge, one case of kidnaping; S. E. Gibbons, one case of kidnaping, and C. O. Mash, one case of kidnaping.

So far as is known, only one of the men indicted by the grand jury has left the county. He is the Rev. L. A. Nalls of Georgiana, who left early in the week the grand jury held its session.

ALABAMA HALTS FLOGGING TRIALS PENDING APPEALS

Test of Convictions By Two Men Sentenced May Have Effect on Conduct of New Cases.

Birmingham, Ala., October 17.—An inexpected postponement today delayed the trial of 11 men charged with participating in masked floggings in Jefferson county until January 2, 1928.

In announcing postponement of the trials, Attorney General Charlie C. McCall, of Alabama, said the delay was caused by a desire to await the outcome of appeals now pending in the cases of Eugene Doss and L. A. Clayton, both of whom are under sentence of ten years in the state penitentiary for their part in the whipping of Jeff Calloway at Oneonta last July.

The two men were at liberty on bond at the time of their indictment in connection with the Jefferson county masked violence cases.

Postponement came after the state apparently was ready to begin trial of Julius Lumpkin on a charge of bribery in connection with testimony before the grand jury investigating the flogging of Arthur Hitt, a negro farmer, and John Bolton and Dan Mitchell.

W. J. Worthington, prominent Birmingham attorney, probably is the outstanding defendant among those accused. Worthington was specifically charged by the grand jury with flogging and terrorizing Hitt into selling the farm on which he lived for a small sum.

Nine other men are under indictment for bribery and kidnaping in connection with the lashing of the three men.

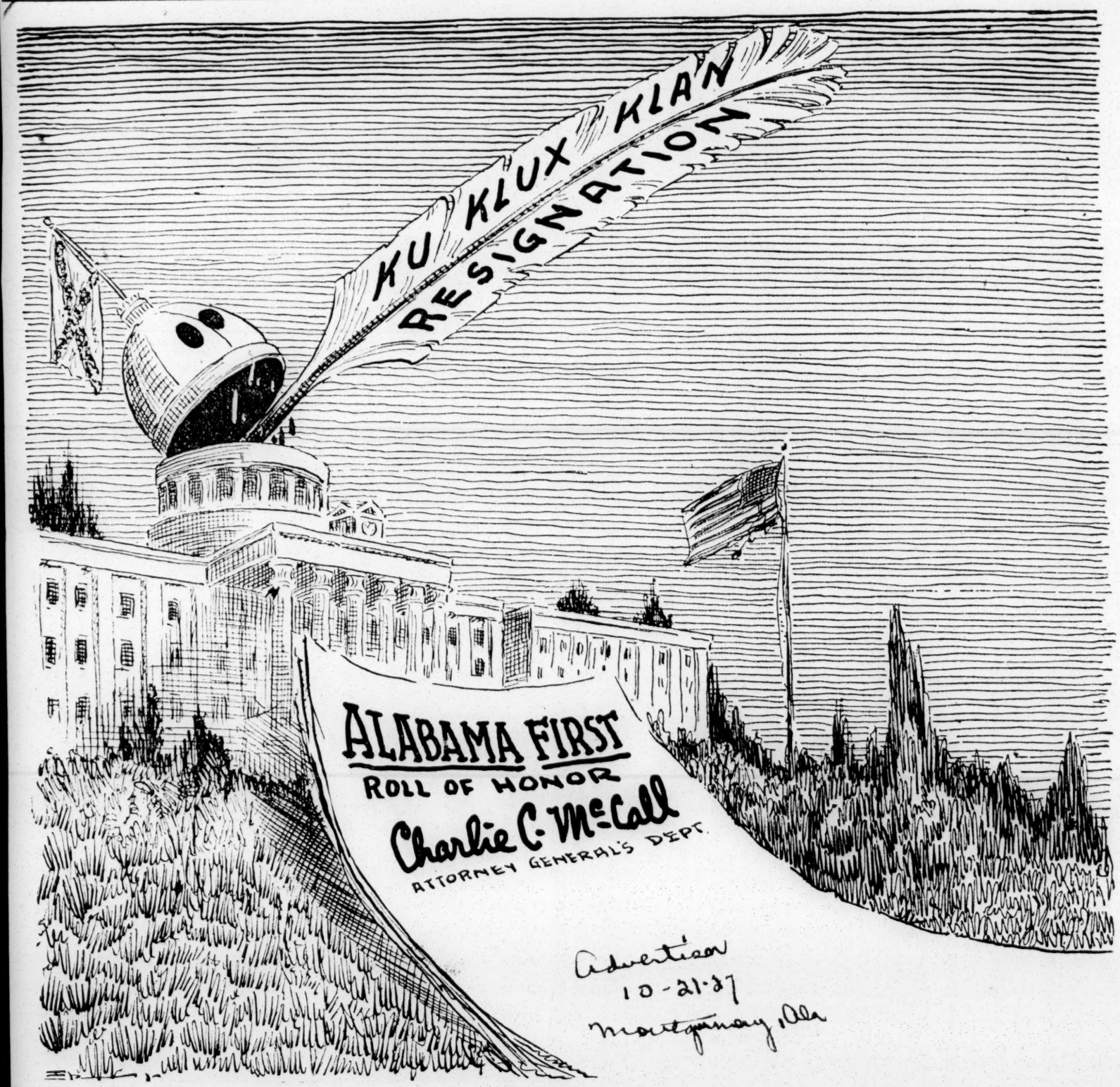
Meanwhile, Sheriff Tatum, of Crenshaw county, was holding 28 remaining warrants for persons indicted for complicity in 20 or more cases of masked violence by a special grand jury at Luverne Saturday.

Seventeen persons were arrested last night and gave bonds totaling $33,000 after their indictment and arrest. The Crenshaw grand jury in reporting its investigation into "barbaric conditions" in the county, made a scathing denunciation of Ku Klux Klan leaders in Alabama and returned 102 indictments against 45 persons for masked violence.

Ku Klux Klan - 1927

Alabama

THE LINE WILL PLEASE FORM ON THE RIGHT ---Spang



Advertiser
10-21-27
Montgomery, Ala

LUVERNE KLAVERN RECORDS SEIZED BY M'CALL'S ORDER

Home of Ira Thompson Yields Papers on Search Warrant; Robes Will Reveal Names of Klan Members

GRAND DRAGON APPEARS; QUIZZED FOR OVER HOUR

Was 'Just Another Witness' and Little Excitement Created By Appearance

By HAROLD W. STEPHENS
Staff Correspondent

LUVERNE, ALA., Oct. 14.—The Crenshaw county grand jury concluded the taking of testimony in the special flogging probe today and began voting on indictments. A complete report will probably be made tomorrow afternoon and stirring revelations are expected.

Developments during the day were featured by the appearance of James Esdale, grand dragon of the klan in Alabama before the jury as a witness, and the seizure of klan paraphernalia in the Luverne klavern and from the residence of Captain Ira Thompson.

Mr. Esdale's appearance in Luverne failed to create the sensation which had been anticipated. Mr. Esdale was just "another witness." He arrived in Luverne shortly after 10 o'clock Friday morning. He went to the courthouse at once where he told Assistant Attorney General John J. Haynes that he was ready to appear before the grand jury at any time. His presence, however, was not required until the afternoon session. He went into the grand jury room at 1:10 p. m. and remained for one hour and twenty minutes.

10-15-27

Apparently Mr. Esdale did not encounter the same difficulties which Cecil Davis, who was sentenced to five days' imprisonment Thursday for refusing to answer questions and George H. Thigpen, who was summoned into open court on contempt of court charges for the same thing, encountered. He left Luverne in his car immediately after he came from the

grand jury room. Members of the staff of the attorney general stated that they were through with him and that he would not be called back on the final day of the grand jury session.

Records Seized

Seized Friday afternoon under a search warrant directed to the office and home of Ira B. Thompson, Luverne attorney, and reputed exalted cyclops of the Luverne klavern, records, masks and robes of the klavern, are in the hands of Attorney General Charlie McCall. Attorney General McCall stated after the seizure of the paraphernalia that he had "nothing to say." Mr. Thompson also declined to make a statement, saying only that he had no idea why the records and uniforms had been seized and that it was "all Greek" to him.

Possession of the robes, it was said, gives Attorney General McCall practically a complete roster of the Luverne klavern, as the name of the owner of each robe was written on it in pencil. A number of the robes, between fifteen and twenty, were also in packages, in which they had been mailed back to the klavern, the packages bearing the date and return address of the sender in each instance, it was learned.

The search warrant was sworn out about 11 o'clock by a member of the attorney general's department before J. N. Pollard, justice of the peace, and was executed by officers attached to his staff, and Crenshaw county officers. Finding Mr. Thompson in his office they explained their mission to him and were immediately invited to "go right ahead." Mr. Thompson accompanied two of the officers to his home.

The dwelling, a long, low structure of typical army construction, of which he (Mr. Thompson) is captain, is the armory of Company B of the 117th Field Artillery, which Governor Bibb Graves commanded in the world war. It has also served as a meeting place for the Luverne klavern. The records and uniforms were loaded into an automobile and taken to the hotel in which the attorney general is stopping. They were later carried to his room. Mr. Thompson required the officers making the search to give him a receipt for the different articles seized.

Witnesses before the jury today were, Mrs. J. T. Williamson, Pate McQueen, J. T. Williamson, Ed Wells, Shelby Gregory, James Esdale, Fred Cain and Maxie Miller.

SAYS LEADERSHIP GREATEST MENACE TO LAW AND ORDER

Declares Many Of Crimes O Hooded Mobs Were Plotted And Shielded by Leaders In Organization

REGARDS OATH TO STATE HIGHER THAN KLAN PLEDGE

Will Not Be Member of Orde That Banishes Men For Telling Truth

Attorney General Charlie C. McCall has tendered his unconditional resignation as a member of the Ku Klux Klan of Alabama, in a letter to the Exalted Cyclops of Klan No. 3, Province No. 2, at Montgomery.

The attorney general declares in this letter that: "As presently dominated, governed and led, I am of the opinion, which opinion is based on a thorough investigation of crimes and activities of leaders, that the Klan in Alabama is the greatest menace to constituted authority."

In this letter Attorney General McCall states he stands for those fundamental principles which the Klan has publicly pronounced, and will ever stand for them in his public as well as his personal relations with his fellow men. When he entered the Klan, he states, he sincerely believed in these principles, and that the Klan practiced as well as pronounced them.

However, he adds, in the course of his investigations of the activities of the Klan in Alabama since he became attorney general, he has become convinced that "the Klan in Alabama is in the hands of a lawless leadership." Attorney General McCall says also that he has become convinced that it is not the purpose or intent of its leaders to aid the duly constituted officers of the law in their efforts to enforce the criminal laws "where crimes are committed by its membership."

Says Klan Plotted Lashings

He states further that he has become personally convinced that many of the crimes by hooded mobs, which he has investigated, "have been plotted and planned by Klan leaders, and the perpetrators of those crimes have been encouraged and shielded in the commission thereof."

The attorney general charges in his letter that instead of the leaders of the Klan in Alabama aiding the duly constituted officers of the law, "in their efforts to ferret out crimes committed by Klan members, the leaders of this organization are contrary to those fundamentals they have publicly pronounced, have spread a wave of intimidation over many law abiding members therein, and have dealt in caustic and cowardly remarks concerning the motives and action of the officers of the law who have sought and are seeking to enforce the law."

Many of these leaders, the attorney general charges also, are, in his judgment, "responsible for the wave of lashings and floggings which have taken place in this state;" and he adds that many members of the Klan are placed in fear of drastic action by its present state rulers, "if they tell the truth in courts."

For his part, Attorney General McCall states, he regards his oath as an officer of the law as superior to any private or fraternal obligation he can take,—and to this he adds the statement that: "I do not feel that I should follow longer behind the banner, and under the leadership of those leaders in the Klan in Alabama, who in my judgment, in many instances, in their religio-political and criminal connivings, are placing themselves at war with constituted authority."

He will not, the attorney general declares, be at the call or fraternal command of "leaders of an organization, which banishes its members for telling the truth in courts of justice."

ATTORNEY GENERAL DECLARES ARTICLE HIGHLY IMPROPER'

Statement In Montgomery Afternoon Newspaper Will Be Thoroughly Investigated, Says

M'CALL NEITHER AFFIRMS NOR DENIES VERACITY

Persons Responsible For Article Will Be Held In Contempt Of Court

BIRMINGHAM, ALA., Oct 12.—Special To The Advertiser.—James Esdale, grand dragon of the Ku Klux Klan of Alabama, who has been subpoenaed to appear before the Crenshaw county grand jury in their investigation of the flogging is that county was reported to be in Birmingham Wednesday.

An effort to serve a subpoena on him at his apartment here brought the report that he was not in the city and would not be back before Thursday. Esdale's whereabouts still remain a mystery as far as authorities are concerned.

It was reported that a Birmingham minister saw him leaving his apartment today.

By HAROLD W. STEPHENS
Staff Correspondent

LUVERNE, ALA., Oct. 12.—Aroused over a newspaper article appearing in a Montgomery afternoon newspaper Wednesday, which stated that four prisoners had turned state's evidence before the grand jury, Attorney General Charlie C. McCall Wednesday night declared that such stories were highly improper and that the article would be thoroughly investigated and the statement and the persons responsible for it held in contempt of court.

He declared that it is a violation of the law to divulge what happened in the grand jury room. The four men, he said, had been held without allowing anyone except their attorneys and then only on demand of the prisoner to see them. He said that no confession had been made by them to any member of the sheriff's department the state law enforcement department or the prosecuting attorney, so far as he knew.

The intimation of the attorney general was that the news of such a confession, which he would neither admit nor deny, came from the grand jury room. Mr. McCall condemned an attempt to find out and publish the story of what occurred in the jury room. His statement follows:

McCall's Statement

"I have observed a newspaper report in an afternoon Montgomery newspaper to the effect that certain prisoners charged with having a connection with the floggings in Crenshaw county have turned state's evidence and the article was so headed. The newspaper stated in the article that the information was obtained on splendid authority.

"I wish to state that it will be a violation of the law for any one to divulge what occurred in the grand jury room. Many witnesses have been brought before the grand jury here and many more will be brought before it. And the newspapers of this state can materially assist in the disposition of criminal matters by refrainng from publication of matters which are supposed to have taken place in the grand jury's room.

"I wish to state that I am not authority for such a statement and am confident that the circuit solicitor and the assistant attorney general and the members of the grand jury also are not authority for this statement.

"I appreciate fully the interest of the public in this investigation and the desire of the newspapers to place the facts before the public, but in doing this I do not wish that anything that may prejudice the right of the state of Alabama to bring the law violators to justice."

Offers no Denial

Attorney General McCall would neither affirm nor deny the report, saying simply that it was a violation of the law for him to speak one way or the other.

He further stated that he would in all probability call before the grand jury each and every man against whom a warrant had been sworn out in connection with the Crenshaw county floggings.

It is known that four prisoners, who have been held in the Montgomery county jail, were brought back to Crenshaw county Wednesday morning and Wednesday afternoon went before the grand jury.

Witnesses appearing before the grand jury Wednesday afternoon were Tim Harris, Robert Free, Bazor Martin, Hamp Kendricks, H. J. Browder, Harry Stephens, Mrs. C. V. Acreman, Thaxton Miller, Cecil Davis, George Thigpen, Mrs. Sallie Tomlin, Shelby Gregory, Shirley Daniels and Maxie Miller.

Will Last Until Saturday

The investigations of the grand jury of Crenshaw county will not be completed before Saturday, Attorney General Charlie C. McCall definitely stated at noon Wednesday. His statement dispelled a rumor which had become current about the courthouse in the morning that the grand jury would probably complete its work and render a report Thursday or Friday of this week. The rumor was based upon the fact that no additional summons for witnesses were issued Wednesday morning.

State Superintendent of Insurance George H. Thigpen, reputed grand titan of the southern province of the klan of Alabama, together with Cecil Davis, of Birmingham, reputed former grand titan of the southern province, arrived in Luverne early Wednesday morning. Four prisoners, who had been held in the Montgomery county jail on charges connected with floggings in Crenshaw county were brought to Luverne by a deputy sheriff of Montgomery county to testify before the grand jury. Attorney General McCall would give no intimation as to what either Mr. Thigpen or Mr. Davis or the four prisoners testified. The four were: J. T. Williamson, Shelby Gregory, Mazie Miller and Thaxton Miller. Nor would Mr. McCall divulge what progress had been made in the work of the grand jury. He only expressed himself as being well satisfied, characterizing the work so far done as "splendid."

Refuse to Make Statements

Neither Mr. Thigpen nor Mr. Davis would make a statement Wednesday. The former, however, in declining to be quoted, expressed his ignorance of the general situation in Crenshaw county. He also said that he would truthfully answer all questions put to him before the grand jury, and that he would cooperate with them in any way possible in their investigation. He declared that he thought the laws should be administered by the constituted authorities and not by self-appointed advocates. Both Mr. Thigpen and Mr. Davis expressed indignation that an afternoon Montgomery newspaper had held the fact of their not being present on the first day of the grand jury's investigation before the public. Both declared that they had been summoned to appear on the 12th.

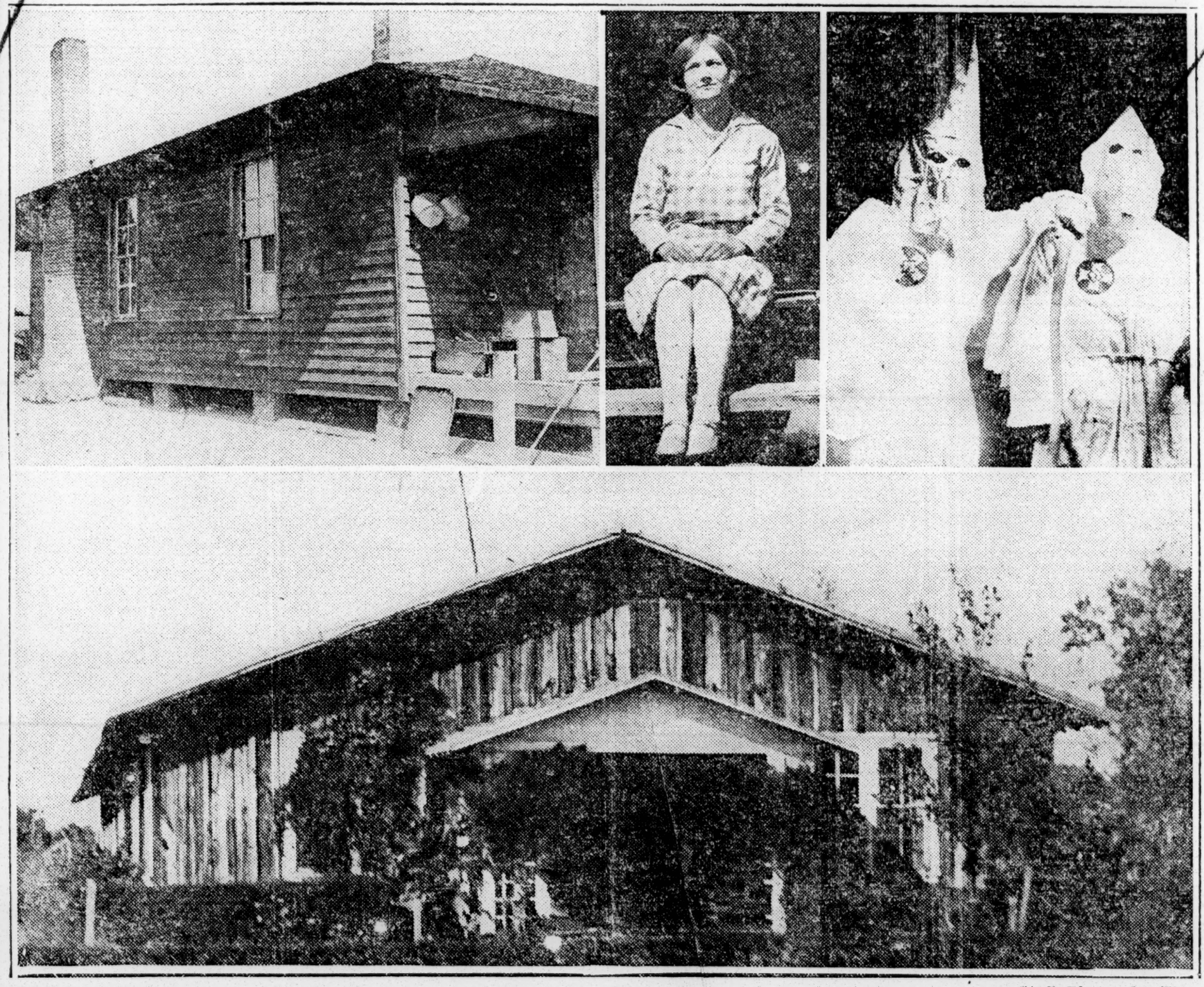
Nalls Still Missing

Nothing further was known of the whereabouts of the Rev. L. A. Nalls, Baptist minister of Georgiana, who is reported to have left the state early in the week. The two warrants charging him with having participated in Crenshaw county floggings as well as subpoena requiring his presence before the grand jury remains unserved. The same quietness which has featured the entire session of the grand jury, continued unbroken Wednesday.

Ku Klux Klan - 1927

Alabama.

Flogged Woman, Her Home, and Klavern



Views connected with the flogging of Mrs. Fannie Daniel, whose photograph appears in the center of the top row. Mrs. Daniel was sleeping in the room with the chimney, as shown in the top photograph to the left, when she was seized and taken to the room at the right of the photograph. There she was thrown across a bed and whipped.

At the bottom is a photograph of the home of Captain Ira B. Thompson, Luverne klavern leader, who is under indictment for kidnaping in connection with Crenshaw county floggings. The house, which has great depth, is also the armory of Company B, 117th field artillery, and has been used as a meeting place for the Luverne klavern, members of which were among those who whipped Mrs. Daniel.

Top, right: Newspapermen posed in official regalia of the Knights of the Ku Klux Klan. The two costumes were among those of the Luverne klavern which were found at the home of Captain Thompson when it was searched during the grand jury probe.

—Staff Photos by Thompson

Advertiser 10-20-27 Montgomery, Ala.

Whipped In Home While Gang Held Mother In Another Room

By HAROLD STEPHENS
Staff Correspondent

Crenshaw Co.

It was at her home, a low, weathered house set in a white sand yard that fronted on a rough, red clay road two miles west of the Montgomery-Luverne highway and seven miles from Luverne, that an Advertiser reporter and photographer found Mrs. Fannie Daniel, whom the recent Crenshaw county grand jury probe revealed, was severely beaten by a band of masked and robed men during the past winter.

In response to the reporter's knock, she came to the door. She is a young woman, in her twenties. She smiled and bowed in acknowledgement of the introduction, blushing slightly as she apologised for her appearance. She and her mother had been sewing all morning, she explained, and the old blue checked gingham dress and faded brown sweater weren't intended for company.

That was no matter, they said, the hour was not the usual one for visitors, they knew. Would Mrs. Daniel grant them a favor? Diffidently she listened to their request. Would Mrs. Daniel tell them of the attack that had been made upon her, and allow them, if it were not too much to ask, to make a few photographs?

The smile vanished for a moment as she considered. Perhaps she ought not; but then, the whole of the story would come out in court. And—

"I might as well," the decision was quickly made. "Come in, won't you and sit down with us." She led the way to the room, on the right as one enters the house, in which she and her mother had been working. To her mother, sitting at a sewing machine, with scraps of cloth scattered about her, she performed the introductions. To the visitors she pointed out chairs. 'Sit there, in the rocker by the fire, and here is one for you. Blow the fire a bit mother, won't you?"

Tidied Room

She tidied the room for a minute, then sat in a chair near the wall "I hardly know where to begin," she said. "It was all caused, they said, because I went with a man here in the neighborhood too much. And I hadn't. I saw him sometimes, but when it was I was going to or from town, and he lives a mile down the road, so I couldn't help meeting him then, could I?"

Mob Came Twice

It was twice the mob came, first in the summer of 1926, and next early in 1927. Was it the last time they whipped her? Yes, it was on the last visit they made. It was in the early part of February or the latter part of January, she said, a few days before she had gone to Birmingham. She remembered that; she went there February 11th.

The first visit of the Klan, when was it? "It was a month or two after father died, and he died in April, 1926," she fixed the time. There were twelve or thirteen in the band and they all wore masks and robes. It was late at night when they came, 10:30 or 11 o'clock, after Mrs. Daniel and her moth-

er had gone to bed.

There was a loud summoning knock upon the door. Both of the women went to the door, around which a ghostly semi-circle of Klansmen were gathered on the porch. She had been going with a certain man, they charged, and they didn't like her conduct. They demanded that she stop associating with him She did not admit she was going with him, she said, but before they left she told them she would not be seen with him. And with a final injunction, emphasized by a threat to return, they departed.

The second visit, there were many more in robes. The room, after they entered, was crowded; about twenty-five were there, she would guess. Most of them were masked, but a few, a "sprinkling of them" wore their overalls and no masks, she said. "I was asleep in this room—."

Knocked at Door

"And I was sleeping in the room back there," her mother broke in, indicating the room immediately behind that in which they were sitting. "It was late at night, at about the same time they came the first time. I was sleeping there, when I heard them knock. I listened, and I thought I knew who it was so I got a gun, a shot gun, before I went to the door.

"I called to them through the door and said, 'who's there?' 'The Klan', they answered. 'We don't mean any harm, just let us in,' they called back."

Fumbling in the darkness, Mrs. Clements unfastened the top latch of the door. Before she could loosen the bottom one, they pushed heavily through the door. Thrusting her gun forward, she strove vainly to stop their rush. They twisted it from her hands.

"'Where's Fannie and where's that man she has been going with?' they wanted to know, and I couldn't tell them because there was no man there."

Mrs. Daniel took up the tale. She lay in bed until her mother had gone to the door and the men rushed, past her into the hallway. Hearing her name, she arose from the bed and, in her night clothes, started toward the doorway to the hall.

Before she reached it masked men came into the room. Seizing her, they held her trembling while they peered about. Satisfied that the man they sought was not there, they determined to take her wtih them in a search for him.

She told them she could not go in her night gown as she was, she said "That's all right, just wrap that blanket around her and bring her on," one of them answered, she related.

But she won her point, and going to the room which had been occupied by her mother, she started to dress. Some of the masked men followed her into the room.

"I can't dress with you all in here," she told them, "won't you go out so I can dress?" she asked. But no, they would not leave and with what privacy a door swung perpendicular to the wall afforded, she removed her night gown and put on a dress.

She was brought back to the front room, expecting to be taken on a wild chase after the man with whom they charged her with associating. But once again, they changed their plans and seizing her, bore her back to the room where she had dressed. They threw her bodily across the bed Masked men held her feet and hands. A Klansman, catching the bottom of her skirt, pulled it up around her waist.

And another, wielding a leather strap dealt blow after blow across the naked flesh.

After the whipping she was taken back to the front room, where her mother had been held in a chair. For a number of minutes, a good while, she said, the Klansmen remained in the room. They still accused her of going with the man, and when she argued, one of them struck her with his hand across the face.

"Give her some more, she ain't had enough," a voice in the crowd shouted. But the others thought differently, and in a little while all left the house, and climbing into their cars, rode away

And so ended the recountal of the flogging administered Mrs. Fannie Clements Daniel by robed and hooded members of the Ku Klux Klan, in the year of our Lord, nineteen hundred twenty-seven.

ASSIGNS M'ADORY FOR INVESTIGATION OF THREAT REPORTS

Will Visit Crenshaw at Once; Governor Declines To Comment on Action, But Expects Early Results

JEFFERSON SOLICITORS CONFER WITH M'CALL

Mystery Surrounds Attorney General's Movements; Out of Office Yesterday

Gov. Bibb Graves has acted on Attorney General Charlie C. McCall's recent communication to the chief executive setting out the situation which the attorney general states exists in Crenshaw county, regarding the intimidation and harassing of state's witnesses in flogging cases.

The reason Attorney General McCall's letter was not given to the press by him, the governor said, was because it came to him marked "confidential." Acting upon this letter, he said, he has issued instructions to Chief Walter K. McAdory of the state law enforcement department to make an investigation, and has asked Chief McAdory to secure from the attorney general any suggestions that may be of assistance in carrying the investigation through.

Though no further statement than this was forthcoming from the executive department, it is understood that the particular purpose of Mr. McAdory's investigation, is to obtain detailed information concerning the intimidation charged, together with specific instances of such action. Further action is expected by the governor when report of the investigation of Chief McAdory is in his hands.

Chief McAdory will begin this investigation at once, it is understood and will make his report to Governor Graves at the earliest possible moment. It is thought probable that he may be able to complete the work by the middle of the coming week.

Attorney General McCall left his office early in the forenoon, yesterday and was not expected to return before Saturday morning. He was out of the city, it was learned, but where he had gone and what his destination was, could not be ascertained. That he was pursuing his campaign to bring to an early end the lashing of helpless citizens by masked and robed mobs in Alabama, appeared to be generally conceded.

Some hazarded the guess that the attorney general had gone to Crenshaw county, or to Jefferson county, where trial of many defendants indicted in connection with masked floggings is now pending. Whether he was in either of these counties, or was pursuing his investigations in some other county, north, east, south or west of Montgomery, no one but his trusted advisers and assistants know, however.

Yesterday afternoon, Solicitor Jim Davis and Assistant Solicitor Willard Drake, of Jefferson county, spent some time at the capitol. They called at the attorney general's department and were to have called on Gov. Graves. Asked if their trip to the capitol had any connection with the pending flogging cases in Jefferson county, they replied in the negative, stating they were here on other matters.

Combined efforts of the forces at the attorney general's command and Chief McAdory and his deputies, in putting a stop to the intimidation tactics which it is stated, are beng widely employed against state witnesses in flogging cases in Crenshaw county, are expected to have a salutary effect. They will at least, it is believed, reduced intimidation activities to a minimum.

Measures taken to intimidate several state's witnesses in Crenshaw, by unwelcome guests, became so harassing and were carried to such an extreme, that they fled the county, coming to the attorney general at Montgomery to ask protection and financial aid during their absence from home. Measures for their protection were immediately taken by Attorney General McCall, but no provision being made by the state for such an emergency, he was unable to give any financial help to these witnesses who feared to return to their homes.

M'CALL APPEALS TO GRAVES FOR AID OF LASH WITNESSES

Writes Confidential Letter To Governor Explaining Intimidation of Crenshaw Witnesses After Flogging Probe

'HAVE NOTHING TO SAY' SAYS CHIEF EXECUTIVE

Regards Attorney General's Resignation From Klan As 'Personal Matter'

Attorney General Charlie C. McCall has made good his promise to lay before Governor Bibb Graves at his earliest opportunity, the situation which the attorney general states exsts in Crenshaw county as to the harassing and intimidation of state's witnesses in pending flogging cases here, by nocturnal uninvited and unwelcome guests.

It became known at the capitol yesterday afternoon, that the attorney general, in a letter to the governor, has explained the situation fully. Asked concerning the communication, Attorney General McCall said he had addressed a letter to the governor, but that it was a confidential letter, and that, therefore, if it were made public, it would have to be made public by the governor.

Yesterday evening, inquiry was made of Governor Graves, whether he had received a letter from Attorney General McCall, and replied that he had, but that it was marked "confidential" and that he was so regarding it. Governor Graves did not indicate what action he would take, stating merely, as to what the letter contained: "I have nothing to say regarding it. The letter was marked by the attorney general 'confidential'."

When asked if he had any comment to make on the resignation of Attorney General McCall as a member of the Ku Klux Klan in Alabama, and the reasons given by the attorney general for his action, Governor Graves said he had not, adding, as to the attorney general's resignation: "It is a personal matter that does not concern me."

Receives Congratulations

It was reported at the statehouse yesterday, that Attorney General McCall had received many messages during the day congratulating him upon quitting the klan for the reasons which he assigned for so doing. Queried concerning this report, the attorney general replied: "Well, I haven't anything to say about that." It was rumored during the day that others holding positions of importance with the state, might follow the attorney general's example in resigning from the Ku Klux Klan, and if this did occur it would not occasion any considerable surprise, it was conceded.

Other rumors reaching Montgomery yesterday, purporting to emanate from Crenshaw county, were to the effect that since the returning of 102 indictments by the grand jury which recently investigated many floggings in Crenshaw county, all but one of which, it is claimed, were perpetrated by persons wearing the robes of the klan—that a large number of klansmen have "dropped out" as members of the klan in Crenshaw. This rumor could not be verified.

Attorney General McCall was asked Thursday, if his resignation from the klan and the reasons given by him for his resignation, could be construed in any sense, to presage a general investigation by him of the Ku Klux Klan in Alabama. To this question he replied: "No. My action is entirely personal and actuated by regard for my duties as a citizen of the nation and the state, and because of my official position as an officer sworn to uphold the laws and constitution of Alabama, and also because of my status as the chief prosecuting officer of the state."

Klan Critics Assailed

The Rev. W. E. Hotalen, itinerant minister of the Gospel not unknown in Chattanooga, recently pitched his tent in Birmingham. Ostensibly the purpose of this man's holding forth was the salvation of sinners. But, says The Columbus (Ga.) Enquirer-Sun, he "turned his tent meeting into a vitriolic attack upon critics of the Ku Klux Klan and an equally strenuous justification of the masked brotherhood and all its ways."

The attack of this "self-styled man of God" was directed principally at Victor Hanson, publisher of The Birmingham News, The Birmingham Age-Herald and The Montgomery Advertiser, who has fought with commendable energy for the overthrow of the rule of mask and lash in Alabama. In defending the hooded organization, the preacher is said to have declared: "The mask and robe have a symbolical significance which is founded on the Scriptures."

The doctrines of the Rev. Mr. Hotalen and his method of attack obtained for him the usual amount of advertising. Some of the newspapers of Alabama and Georgia even went so far as to take the evangelist and his utterances seriously. Which would seem to be somewhat unnecessary in view of all the circumstances.

There would seem to be no considerable reason why editors and "the more critical-minded" generally should permit themselves to become greatly exercised over the outgivings of the Rev. Mr. Hortalen. There is, however, abundant reason for the churches of Alabama—if not of the churches of other states—to give themselves concern over the fact that such a man as Hotalen is able to represent himself as a minister of the Gospel and draw after himself followers of a sort. His association with the Protestant churches doesn't hurt anybody or anything except the churches.—Chattanooga Times.

Alabama

Ku Klux Klan - 1927

Jasper Attorney Points Out Need Of Official Actio

BIRMINGHAM, ALA., Oct. 26.—Special to The Advertiser.—Calling upon Governor Bibb Graves to take the leadership in disbanding the Ku Klux Klan in Alabama, John H. Bankhead, son of the late Senator John H. Bankhead, issued the following statement tonight:

"To one who views government from the standpoint of reverence for the constitution and respect for the laws and has real convictions on the rights of citizens to enjoy life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness subject to the laws and under the constitutional procedure for the administration of the laws, we have arrived at a most deplorable state in Alabama.

"It is traceable to the situation within the Ku Klux Klan. Since the last election a reign of hooded outlawry has prevailed in many sections of the state. There must be some reason for these extraordinary and illegal developments.

"It cannot be predicted alone upon the spirit of intollerance and persecution which leaders of the Klan have sought to inculcate in the body politic and in members of their order. It is not logical to conclude that the large number of masked lashing parties which have cowed and beaten poor helpless men and women is the mere culmination of the preachments of such intolerance.

Widespread Riots Arouse Citizens

"There must be some reason for the sudden and widely scattered unlawful riots which have so marred the good repute of Alabama and have so aroused those citizens, who believe as Paul, the greatest of all Christians did, 'but we know that the law is good, if a man used it lawfully.' At the last election nearly all successful candidates were members of the Ku Klux Klan.

"They elected a United States senator, the governor, the attorney general, solicitors in many circuits, and sheriffs in many counties and since that time our other United States senator has apparently enlisted as a national Klan lecturer. Many leaders and members of the Klan have evidently entertained the impression that with such an array of law enforcement officers in sympathy with them, that protection would be afforded them by officers who owed their election to the Klan have unleashed their feelings and with abandon and recklessness have defied the law. It is fair to say that in many sections there has been a leadership and a membership which have not taken unto themselves in disregard of the law the regulation of their personal conduct of all of their neighbors, by inflicting cruel and inhumane punishment without legal judgment of guilt. Recent developments have centered attention upon the highest public officials of the state.

"The attorney general, a courageous and conscientious public official has found that membership in the Klan is incompatible with the performance of his duties and tendered his resignation as a member of the invisible empire. His attitude and action has struck a responsive chord in the hearts of those who still hope for a return of orderly government and the infliction of punishment under the safeguards provided by the constitution and the laws of the land.

Leader of "Plain People" Maintains Silence

"Senator Heflin, after Imperial Wizard Evans chastized him in Birmingham and called upon the Klan to retire him from office, has taken refuge in the Klan camp and is now out Heroding Herod. No one has yet heard a word from the self styled, 'leader of the plain people,' either denunciation or milde objection to the unlawful treatment accorded many plain and humble people by members of the admiral's battle crew. It seems hopeless to expect aid from this new and zealous proselyte.

"The most startling development is the recent statement by the attorney general of Alabama, that leaders of the Klan are conspiring to violate the law and are obstructing the administration of justice in the courts.

Says Time for Action has Arrived

"The governor is the chief enforcement officer in the state. He has surrounded himself with fellow Klansmen. I make no objection to that action. I believe in loyalty to supporters and friends so far as is compatible with the public good. I am reluctant to say anything that would wound Governor Graves. I was his college mate and entertain for him a marked personal regard, though I did not vote for him. It seems to me however that the time for action by Governor Graves has arrived. Enforcement officers to assist the attorney general when requested by the attorney general.

"The situation calls for positive drastic leadership by the state's governor to the end that all who run may read that the laws of Alabama must be respected and obeyed by Klansmen and all others alike. Recently a state official appointed by Governor Graves, the insurance commissioner, after getting away from the Luverne court and back in the state capitol, the symbol of law and respect for the courts, gratuitously announced that if he had been asked when a witness before the grand jury if a certain citizen under investigation for participation in flogging was a Klansman he would have defied the courts because of a prior oath to the Klan, or to avoid going back upon his friends. I assume that the attorney general will give him the opportunity to make good his statement when the Luverne cases are tried.

Appointed Defiant of Court's Order

"We further find that Mr. Davis, prominent in Klan official circles, immediately after completing a sentence for defiance of the law and contempt of courts, reports to the state capitol to begin public service there as a part of Governor Graves' administration.

"Is Governor Graves going to condone and approve that form of super government and law nullification by his capitol appointees? If so then he may understand that many further removed from him will assume that the governor of the state is in sympathy with defiance of the courts, we are indeed drifting upon troubled waters.

"It seems to me that the time has arrived for the Ku Klux Klan in Alabama to disband. When the original order had established white supremacy in Alabama, many of the best men in it got out, and it fell into irresponsible hands and became a lawless, terrorizing instrument for personal prosecution. When that time came its founder, General Forrest, disbanded it.

"I make a public appeal to Governor Graves to assume the leadership in disbanding the Klan in Alabama. It has fallen into irresponsible and bad leadership and according to current reports many of its former good members have withdrawn. The attorney general states after thorough investigation, (and no one could accuse him of being unfair to or prejudiced against his Brother Klansmen,) that many crimes have been plotted in the klaverns and executed by officers and members.

Charges Hooded Order no Longer Needed

"What useful purpose is the Ku Klux Klan now serving? Why should an order continue to function which is fermenting so many troubles and discords among our people? Are not the churches and the homes and the fraternal orders which teach purity? friendship and love sufficient to promote Christianity and morality? And are not courts sufficient to entorce the laws? Surely those who desire to prevent Catholics from holding public office in Alabama do not need a secret political party to measure political swords with less than two per cent of the voters of the state.

"Surely an organization is not to be maintained merely to boycott the Jews in trade and commerce. Surely the foreign born now residing in Alabama are so few in number that no intelligent citizen could have any fear of their dominance in politics or business. If Governor Graves will take the leadership in disbanding the Klan and call to his support his friends and followers in the organization, and use the prestige and power of his office he can accomplish that result.

"By that action he would bring peace and harmony and concord to a divided and disturbed citizenship and would inevitebly receive the enduring affection of the people of our great state. He would reestablish the supremacy of the constitution and the laws of our state.

"If Governor Graves is unwilling to undertake the suggested task, then every obligation of official duty requires that he should at least clean his official household of every office holder who sets an example of contempt of the courts and of disrepect and disobeyance of the laws of the state.

"It is difficult to understand how he can do less under all the circumstances. I sincerely hope that Governor Graves will bring order out of chaos.

"JOHN H. BANKHEAD."

THREE OF INDICTED MAKE GET-AWAY, CHECK-UP REVEALS

True Bills Returned Against 34 Instead of 37 As Reported by Grand Jury; All Are Under Bonds

ARREST OF FOUR PERSONS REPORTED YESTERDAY

Winford Morgan, Worth Thomas, Walter Mathews and Elmer Hill in Group

LUVERNE, ALA., Oct. 25.—Special to The Advertiser.—Only three of the men indicted by the recent special term of the Crenshaw county grand jury in connection with floggings and other activities of the Ku Klux Klan in Crenshaw county, have not yet been apprehended. One of them is the Rev. L. A. Nalls, Baptist minister of Georgiana, Ala., who left his home at the beginning of the grand jury's session.

A check up at the Crenshaw county courthouse Tuesday revealed the fact that 34, instead of 37 men, as was reported by the grand jury, were indicted. The number of individual indictments reported, 102, was correct.

The arrest and release on bond of four men under indictments of the grand jury was reported today. They are: Winford Morgan, Worth Thomas, Walter Mathews and Elmer Hill.

Those who have been arrested to date, with the number of indictments against each, are:

Cue Bozeman, 3; Dewel Bolling, 3; Dove Bolling, 2; Dove Holland, 2; Willie S. Stallings, 7; Rufus Weeks, 8; Elmer Hill, 3; Press Skipper, 5; Shelby Gregory, 9; Thaxton Miller, 6; Maxie Miller, 5; Walton Wolf, 4; Winford Morgan, 5; J. T. Williamson, 3; Joe Thomas, 2; Luther Holley, 2; Charlie Helms, 4; Glenn Moody, 2; I. D. Hawkins, 1; Will Graydon, 2; Roy Helms, 3; Ira B. Thompson, 1; Andrew Cubstead, 1; George Brunson, 2; Walter Mathews, 1; C. O. Mash, 1; S. E. Gibbons, 1; Jack Jones, 1; Max Walton, 1; Oscar Edge, 2, and Worth Thomas, 2.

Trial of the defendants will begin ate in November.

ATTORNEY GENERAL SAYS INTIMIDATORS WILL GET JUSTICE

Promises Speedy Trials After Roundup in Crenshaw; Investigation Headed by McAdory in Full Swing

HAYNES TO HEAD LASH PROSECUTION IN LINDEN

To Push Murder Charges Resulting From Unmasked Whipping of Negro

Investigation by Chief Walter K. McAdory, of the state law enforcement department, and a detail of picked deputies, of the situation in Crenshaw county, with regard to intimidation of state's witnesses in flogging cases there, was in full swing throughout Sunday and Monday, and arrests are expected soon.

This investigation, being made by order of Governor Bibb Graves, will be under the direction of Attorney General Charlie C. McCall. Governor Graves' action in issuing the order for the inquiry, followed receipt of a letter from the attorney general by the governor, and a conference last Saturday night, between the two officials. In his letter and during the conference the attorney general laid before the chief executive in detail, the attempts made to intimidate state's witnesses in Crenshaw, which activity Attorney General McCall has stated, is widespread.

To Report All Facts

Governor Graves has asked Mr. McAdory to make the investigation a

thorough one, and to report all facts developed, as early as possible. Although it is not known what policy will be pursued as to the apprehension of "intimidators" during the investigation, arrests are expected as Attorney General McCall, under whose direction the inquiry is being made, has already announced that any intimidators found will be brought to speedy and certain justice. This announcement was made prior to the launching of the investigation ordered by the governor, but it has not since been modified or amended by the attorney general.

Attorney General McCall was out of the city yesterday. Members of his staff at the capitol did not know just when he would return, but appeared to be of the opinion that he would probably be back at his desk within a few days. There was no information obtainable as to his whereabouts.

Assistant Attorney General John J. Haynes has been detailed by Attorney General McCall, to go to Linden, on October 31, to assist in the prosecution there of three men who are being held on charges of murder, in connection with the flogging of L. Greathouse, a negro, who was so severely beaten that he died within a few weeks. The lashing of the negro was investigated by agents working out of the attorney general's office, and the arrest and binding over without bond of the three men charged with the crime, followed. These three men are Chris Ray, W. T. Phillips and George Phillips.

Act of Vengeance

The beating of the negro, Greathouse, is alleged to have been an act of punishment or vengeance over a trivial matter. In repairing the battery of his old car, Greathouse, it appears, borrowed a small piece of wire from another old car belonging to his boss. When the "boss" returned, it is alleged, Greathouse told him about borrowing the piece of wire, to which his "boss" replied that was all right, but he had sold the car to Chris Ray. The next evening, according to the testimony at the preliminary hearing, Chris Ray, W. T. Phillips, George Phillips and another man named Glass, drove to Crestillo railroad camp, about a mile and a half from Linden, went to the living quarters of Greathouse, who was employed at the camp, called him out, covered him with pistols, ordered him to get into the car they were driving, and took him off into the woods.

There, according to the evidence, they beat him across the back and struck him over the head with a pistol until his eyes protruded. Then, according to the evidence, they brought the negro back, bleeding and half-conscious, and threw him into a cotton patch near the railroad camp where he was later found. The negro had received mortal injury and was never able to stand on his feet. It was thought his back had been broken. He lingered, growing steadily weaker, and died on August 1.

Trial of five more alleged floggers is scheduled to begin at Hartselle on November 4. These cases will be prosecuted by the solicitor of that circuit, it was understood at the capitol, yesterday, unless the assistance of the attorney general's department is asked.

Graves Still Silent As Cry To Disband Klan Raised

Governor Bibb Graves had no comment to make yesterday on the statement issued Wednesday night by John H. Bankhead, of Jasper, denouncing the activities of hooded mobs in Alabama and calling upon the governor to assume leadership in disbanding the Ku Klux Klan in Alabama, which Mr. Bankhead declares has fallen into irresponsible and bad leadership.

Asked if he had any statement to make, or any comment on the statement of Mr. Bankhead, Governor Graves said yesterday that he did not and added: "I have received no communication from Mr. Bankhead." Just before the governor left his office yesterday afternoon, he was asked if a copy of Mr. Bankhead's statement appearing in the press of the state during the day, had reached him either by letter or wire? He said it had not.

It was reported from Birmingham last night, that Mr. Bankhead did not forward a copy of his statement to Governor Graves, personally.

ATTY. GEN. QUITS K'S

ALABAMA PROSECUTOR CALLS ORDER MENACE TO CONSTITUTED AUTHORITY—HINDERS COURTS—INSTITUTES CRIMES

Montgomery, Ala., Oct. 19, 1927.—In a denunciation of the activities of the Ku Klux Klan in the state of Alabama, in which he said that he is convinced "that the organization is in the hands of a lawless leadership," Atty.-Gen. Charlie C. McCall tonight tendered his unconditional resignation from the organization.

The attorney general, who brought to light the recent floggings in Oneonta, Blound and Crenshaw counties and personally directed the prosecution in the outgrowing cases, charged that "instead of aiding the constituted authorities in their efforts to ferret out crimes committed by Klan members, leaders of the organization have spread a wave of intimidation over many law-abiding citizens therein, and have dealt in caustic and cowardly remarks concerning the motives of officers of the law who have sought and are seeking to enforce the law."

Mr. McCall, after investigating, said that he is of the opinion, "which opinion is based upon a thorough investigation of crimes and activities of leaders, that the Ku Klux Klan in Alabama is the greatest menace to constituted authority."

"When I entered the Klan I sincerely believed in these principles and I sincerely believed that the Klan practised, as well as pronounced them," Mr. McCall declared. "Now ever, in the course of my investigation of the activities of the Klan in this state I have become convinced that it is not the purpose or intent of its leaders to aid the duly constituted officers of the law in their efforts to enforce the criminal laws where crimes are committed by its leadership. I have become personally convinced that many of these crimes by hooded mobs which I have investigated have been plotted and planned by Klan leaders and the perpetrators of those crimes have been encouraged and shielded."

FLOGGING VICTIM SHOT

Birmingham Man Refuses Two Warnings to Leave the City

BIRMINGHAM, Ala., Oct. 26.—(AP)—Robert Collins, 23, was in a critical condition at a local hospital today with a bullet wound in his abdomen, the result of the third attack within a month.

On Oct. 2 and 5 he was flogged by masked men who kidnaped him from his automobile as he drove through the downtown section. Collins told police the floggings were administered in an effort to "make him leave town."

Repeated threats of continued violence have been made to Collins, officers said but the official investigation has been dropped because of Collins' unwillingness to aid police.

Last night Collins was walking through a park on the way to his home when he was accosted by two men who demanded that he accompany them. Collins turned to run and one of the men fired at him with a pistol, the bullet entering his abdomen.

At the hospital where he was taken it was said his condition was serious.

Klan Attiliations Of Jurors Required By Ruling of Judge

PULASKI, TENN., Oct. 27.—(AP)—The modern Ku Klux Klan was brought indirectly today into a flogging trial held in the city which cradled the original organization.

Defense counsel representing five men charged with whipping Henry Brown, a negro, on January 11, protested sharply against questioning of veniremen as to membership in the Ku Klux Klan, declaring it was not involved in the present case in any way, and that local politics was a more disturbing factor.

The objection was overruled, however, by Circuit Judge Turner, and exception noted.

Defendants are Johnny Jones, Claude Rogers, Tom J. Campbell, John Amis and Harris Williamson. Jones is an assistant bank cashier at Prospect and Williamson a mechanic. The rest are farmers.

Examination of eighteen special veniremen at the shortened session produced only one juror, John Myers, a farmer.

None admitted membership in the Klan.

WARNING ISSUED AGAINST 'AGENTS'

Attorney General McCall Says Fake Investigators Hoodwinking Public

Warning against the operations of fake "agents" claiming to be working out of the attorney-general's department, was issued last night by Attorney-General Charlie C. McCall. These "agents," the attorney-general states he is informed, have been engaged in the questioning of witnesses or prospective witnesses for the state in the flogging cases, and generally posing as "investigating agents" for the attorney-general. He asks full cooperation in bringing these fake "agents" to justice. Attorney-General McCall's warning is contained in the following statement:

"My attention has been called to the fact that certain parties have been interviewing witnesses and prospective witnesses in flogging cases and have been making investigations of flogging cases, stating that they were investigators out of the attorney-general's office. This is to notify the public generally and all will be concerned, that no one has a right to represent himself as an investigator for the attorney-general except such persons as carry a communication bearing my genuine signature.

"If any person should come to any witness or victim in a flogging case, or in any other criminal matter, posing as an investigator for the attorney-general, who does not possess a communication over my signature authorizing him so to act, he is an impostor. Any witness or victim in any flogging case who is approached by any person for information except that he be an investigator for the attorney-general, will please notify me in writing and mark his letter 'confidential,' addressing the letter as follows: 'Charlie C. McCall, Attorney-General of Alabama, Montgomery Alabama. Confidential'; and the letter should be registered and a return receipt requested.

"I wish to warn all flogging victims and all state witnesses in flogging cases that no one has authority to investigate such matters for the attorney-general except his own duly authorized agents, and each of these agents, if required to do so in order to show his authority to act, can produce the identification stated. In the event any impostor approaches such persons, then I request all such persons to get a complete and accurate description of the fake agent, whether he poses as an officer or not, and to send all such descriptions or names to me at Montgomery.

"I wish to state that upon identification of such fake agents, I shall immediately proceed against them criminally. Each of my agents has a number."

The Curse of Fanaticism in the Empire State of The South

The Enquirer-Sun unhesitatingly endorses the sentiments expressed in an article reprinted on this page from The Week.

Intoleranse, the Enquirer-Sun has always held, is never justified. Intolerance is cowardice, blind fear, the confession of inferiority, the surest evidence of an uncivilized mind. Intolerance poisons civilization.

When intolerance becomes active, it is known as fanaticism, and fanaticism is the thing that murders Socrates, burns heretics, arrays class against class, tramples fundamental law in the mud in order to gain its bigoted ends, makes posible a cowardly maked gang like the Ku Klux Klan and fetsters that finest attribute of the human mind the spirit of honest inquiry.

The Enquirer-Sun, therefore, has always felt that it is the duty of every civilized person and newspaper to speak out against intolerance and fanaticism. It has been happy to align itself, in opposition to intolerance, with such members of the Georgia press as the Macon Telegraph among the larger dailies, and the Albany Herald the Valdosta Times and the Americus Times-Recorder among the smaller dailies, and among the weeklies, the Dalton Citizen, the Greensboro Herald-Journal, the Madison Madisonian, the Cartersville Tribune-News and the Quitman Free Press.

The Enquirer-Sun believes that newspapers of the type of the Bainbridge Post-Searchlight and the Cordele Dispatch, however sincere their editors may deem themselves to be, perhaps do more to arouse fanaticicism and to undermine civilization in Georgia than any other one factor.

Georgia still has too much of Ku Kluxism, fundamentalism religious intolerance, racial prejudice and placid provincialism. And Georgia cannot prosper materially so long as those evils dominate. But far worse, Georgia cannot prosper culturally. For a state is only a large community, and a community cannot be a good place in which to live so long as men are unwilling for neighbors to hold opinions contrary to their own or attempt ot make outcasts of newscomers who would like to help the community prosper.

It is the custom of newspapers of the editorial trend of the Cordele Dispatch and Bainbridge Post-Searchlight, when Georgia's faults are revealed ,to retort that this state is no worse than any other state. Perhaps so, perhaps not; in any event, no Georgian true to his own state, can be content to rest on such laurels. It should be the desire and the duty of every Georgian to try to make Georgia better than any other state in the union—to make it a state feared by floggers, purged of he masked gang, freed of intolerance, and imbued with the spirit which was the basis of our constitution and the foundation of our liberties.

Alabama

Ku Klux Klan - 1927

SOUTH'S GREATEST MENACE.

According to Attorney General McCall, of Alabama, Crenshaw county in that state has recently undergone a "reign of terror," with 20 or more cases of flogging, of the most brutal nature, having been reported.

"The cases are the worst yet brought to my attention," the attorney general said. "In 90 per cent of the cases, the mask and hood had been used."

This is another challenge to the constituted authorities of that state and of the terrorized county to see that the hoodlums who defy law and order and who thereby seek to undermine government and to tear down its institutions are brought to swift and commensurate justice.

The individual who strikes at government by the defiance of constituted authority is a traitor to his government and should be given a penalty to the very limit of the law.

If Crenshaw county is so saturated with masked thuggery that it will be impossible to secure a jury to act fairly upon the law and the evidence, without giving immunity through the mysterious workings of secret fraternalism, then the cases should be transferred for trial to a county in which justice to the accused and to society may be expected. Surely justice can be expected, however, in Crenshaw county.

Alabama authorities have made good records in the past few months in the apprehension and prosecution of masked night-riders.

But such a report as that which now comes from Crenshaw county illustrates that there is a far way to go before the job has been completed.

The communist situation in the west is no worse—if as threatening—as the "hoodlum" situation in the south.

It is a condition that cannot be temporized with. It must be met. It must be met by the strong arm of the law.

It must be either organized government or organized anarchy, and that fact should sink deep into the hearts and consciences of every law-abiding citizen and every official charged with the enforcement of law.

There should be a sifting process begun immediately in every county in Alabama and in every county in every other state in the south.

Regardless of possible coercion and intimidation and threats of personal violence, officers of the law are sworn to preserve the integrity of the law and to uphold and protect the constitution of their country and state.

Then the most serious menace to the south today must be removed at all costs.

Officers who fail in their duty should not only be summarily removed but punished as aiders and abettors of those who strike at government, and punished on the same basis as the masked night-riders who defy the law.

10-9-27

DISCORD RANKLES IN BODY RESENTING LECTURER'S VISIT

Believe in Principles of Klan But Not in Sympathy With Roughhouse Tactics,' Declares Member

EXALTED CYCLOPS ALSO RESIGNS IS REPORT

Thigpen Denies Rumor He Has Quit; 'Not Going To Resign,' He Says

Tuscaloosa Klavern No. 14, Invisible Empire, Knights of the Ku Klux Klan, has adjourned "sine die."

The exalted cyclops of this klavern has resigned, according to reports.

Another report from apparently reliable sources last night was that a great titan of the klan for the Alabama province, had resigned his office.

State Superintendent of Insurance George H. Thigpen later advised last night of a report from Birmingham to the effect that "George H. Thigpen a great titan of the southern province of the Ku Klux Klan in Alabama" had resigned, and asked concerning it, said: "There is not a word of truth in it. I haven't resigned from anything and am not going to."

The adjournment sine die of the Tuscaloosa klavern and the reported resignations of the Tuscaloosa cyclops and the great Alabama titan are said to have followed dissension within the body of the klan in the state, and particular disagreement by the Tuscaloosa klavern with the klan's state officers.

Arose Over Hotalen's Visit

This particular disagreement, it is said, arose when state officers insisted on sending Earle W. Hotalen, klan lecturer, to hold a series of meetings at Tuscaloosa.

This move, according to Bruce Shelton, an admitted member of the Tuscaloosa klan organization, was against the wishes of the members of the klavern.

State officials of the klan would not affirm or deny the reported resignation of the great titan.

In a statement made yesterday, Shelton, of the Tuscaloosa klan, is reported to have said that the action of the Tuscaloosa klavern was the result of what Tuscaloosa klansmen termed "intolerable conditions in the Alabama realm of the hooded organization, and that they did not longer care to be associated with an organization that based its existence on what state leaders have termed 'intolerance and bigotry.'"

The announcement was the most salient feature in a day following a severe denunciation of the Ku Klux Klan and its leaders from the pen of John H. Bankhead, and which brought a rejoinder from Governor Graves that he was not inclined to notice "the schemes" of his foes.

Follows Bankhead Letter

Mr. Bankhead had addressed a public appeal to Governor Graves to assume the leadership in bringing about the disbanding of the Alabama klan to "reestablish the supremacy of the laws and the constitution of our state."

Governor Graves, evidently awaiting a personal letter from Mr. Bankhead, which would voice the same appeal, declined to issue a statement, while Mr. Bankhead countered with a refusal to add further to his denunciation, except to say that he considered "widespread newspaper publicity of the statement sufficient for the chief executive of the state."

That there is slight chance of the Tuscaloosa klan continuing in existence was indicated by Shelton, who said that if klansmen there follow him the hooded order, insofar as Tuscaloosa is concerned, will die.

"Tuscaloosa klansmen," Shelton said, "believe in the published principles of the Klan. We belonged to the organization as a fraternity, but we have never supported, nor will we condone any acts that appear to be the result of ill-founded principles.

"There has never been an anti-Catholic, anti-Jewish or anti-racial feeling among Tuscaloosa klansmen, and it is a known fact that not in the history of the Klan local has there been a flogging or other cowardly outrage."

First announcement of the indefinite adjournment of the Tuscaloosa klavern indicated that the action followed revolt of the membership against the intention of state officers to send Earl Hotalen, Klan lecturer and revivalist, to the University city for the purpose of staging a series of tent meetings similar to those conducted in Birmingham recently.

Praises McCall

Praise for Charlie C. McCall, attorney-general, who last week tendered his resignation as a member of the Montgomery Klan, was said to have been voiced at this meeting.

Following this meeting, the following statement, issued Thursday by Mr. Shelton, was said to have been prepared:

"We adjourned sine die, subject to my call if and when I see fit to call the organization. The Klan in Tuscaloosa has never had the slightest trouble of any kind. We attribute that to the fact that it has been controlled entirely by local men and always has been and still is one of the biggest Klans in the state.

"The immediate cause of the break was the determination of the state officers to send Earl Hotalen to Tuscaloosa to put on one of his tent meetings. We objected and were overruled; therefore we adjourned sine die. We have never been in sympathy with any of the rough house tactics used in some places. We do not intend to be a party to any such conduct. We feel that a barrel of rotten apples is still a barrel of rotten apples, even though it has one good apple in the middle. We believe absolutely in the announced principles of the Klan, but will not continue to function under the present conditions.

"I am not the Exalted Cyclops. He resigned at the meeting. This is the second time the Klan in Tuscaloosa has been broken up for similar reasons.

"The chief of the klok, Ance Moore, made a speech at the meeting Tuesday in which he referred to Charlie C. McCall as being just as good a man as he had ever been, and that both he and all true klansmen were in hearty accord with McCall's ideas. The Klan applauded Moore.

10-28-27

"In Tuscaloosa Klan conditions have been such that its usefulness has been impaired to such an extent that it cannot effectively function acoording to our own ideas.

"I was elected after the meeting as unofficial leader. Moore is a prominent Mason, a Rotarian, a Legionnaire, and active in civic work."

ROW OVER HOTALEN.

TUSCALOOSA, ALA., Oct. 27.—Bruce Shelton of the local order of the Ku Klux Klan declined to make a further statement regarding the abandonment of the klan here when questioned by The Advertiser correspondent late Thursday night. "I have nothing further to say," said Shelton. "I feel that the less said about the matter, the better; we've had our say; it's somebody else's move now."

Tuscaloosa klan Number 14 had adjourned "sine die," was the substance of the statement made by local authorities. Believing that it could no longer function according to its own ideas, the Tuscaloosa klan decided to adjourn at its last meeting here on Tuesday night, according to Shelton.

The break came after a very trying instance which arose when state officers of the klan insisted upon sending the Rev. Earle Hotalen to hold a series of tent meetings against the wishes of the local klan.

"The statement regarding the adjournment of the local klan is true," said Mr. Shelton, earlier in the afternoon. "It has always been under the control of men of this city who had the good of Tuscaloosa at heart. The principles of the klan as they appear in the ritual and in the oath of the order are all right; we as citizens of America, the home of the brave and the land of the free, will continue to support those principles.

"We have never been in sympathy with any of the rough house tactics used in some of the places," Shelton continued, "and we do not intend to be a party in any such conduct, we believe absolutely in the announced principles of the klan, but will not continue to function under its present conditions."

Shelton absolutely denied being the exalted cyclops, saying that this officer resigned at the last meeting. Shelton, it seems, was elected unofficial leader after the meeting.

It seems to be the sentiment among the ex-klansmen here that Charlie McCall is just as good a man as ever, and for the most part they seem to feel that every good klansman is in accord with McCall's ideas. It is generally known that the Tuscaloosa klan has been one of the most important organizations in the state. The members are regarded as high type and above the average.

Other men believed to be officers in the klan here refused to make statements one way or the other regarding the action.

BRICKEN WILL AID M'CALL AND HAYNES IN LUVERNE CASES

Solicitor Vann Assigned To Relieve Poole at Greenville; Two Men Sought on Flogging Warrants, Disappear

Attorney General Charlie C. McCall and Assistant Attorney General John J. Haynes were in Luverne, Thursday evening, in conference with F. P. Bricken, prominent Luverne lawyer, who will assist Mr. McCall as special prosecutor for the state in the Crenshaw county flogging cases which will be presented to the special session of the grand jury that convenes next Monday. The grand jury will investigate more than a score of lashings of citizens, which the attorney general declares have taken place in Crenshaw county within the past eight months.

Convening of the special term of the Crenshaw inquisitorial body will be in compliance with an order issued Tuesday by Circuit Judge A. E. Gamble, at the urgent request of Attorney General McCall and Governor Bibb Graves. The grand jury will be charged by Judge Gamble, who is now holding court at Greenville, but who will go to Luverne for this special duty.

Solicitor Clyde Vann of Roanoke, has already been assigned to duty with the Butler county circuit court at Greenville next week, by the attorney general, so that Circuit Solicitor Calvin Poole can attend the special grand jury session in Luverne. Another judge will be detailed to duty for the trial of cases at Greenville during the coming week, by Chief Justice John C. Anderson, of the Alabama supreme court.

Three men have already been arrested in connection with the Crenshaw county floggings and have been lodged in the Montgomery county jail where they are being held without bail. Attorney General McCall said Thursday that although warrants were issued three days previously for the arrest of Cue Bozeman and Rufus Welsh, on charges of having taken part in the lashing of Travis Bozeman, in Crenshaw county, these warrants remain unserved. Crenshaw county authorities are still continuing their search for the two men, but it is now believed they have left the county for parts unknown.

In the prosecutions in Birmingham, beginning October 17, of cases growing out of investigations by the Jefferson county grand jury and Attorney General McCall, of the long series of floggings that have taken place in Jefferson during the past spring and summer, the attorney general will be assisted by Solicitor Bart B. Chamberlain, of Mobile. The attorney general has wired Solicitor Chamberlain that he desires his assistance in trial of these cases and has asked him to be on hand, in Birmingham on the date the trials begin.

All of the Jefferson county prosecutions will be directed personally by Attorney General McCall. In choosing Mr. Chamberlain to assist him, the attorney general has selected an official who has long been regarded as one of the ablest circuit solicitors in Alabama, as well as one of the most formidable prosecutors in the state.

Springfield Mass. Republican

JUL 7 1927

The Alabama Floggings

An orgy of floggings that ha been going on in Alabama of late a repetition, in greater frequency of practices which, according to th Montgomery Advertiser, have beer common during the past five years has at last aroused Gov Bibb Graves to declare that "flogging in Alabama 'must cease." Gov Graves has hac the support of the Ku Klux Klan which is believed to have been responsible for many of the floggings It remains to be seen whether his apparent awakening to his own responsibility in the matter will alienate this support; whether his words will be backed by deeds.

It appears that many of the victims of the floggings have been accused of violations of the liquor laws; from which appearance the New York Times points the moral of the evil of "this monomania, this everlasting harping on one law and one duty." But it is difficult to find any very useful wet propaganda in the situation. Floggings for other alleged offenses than bootlegging, and where no offense is alleged, have apparently not been uncommon; reports of the latest whippings make no mention of such charges. The inclusive fact, which needs to be faced, is that self-appointed disciplinarians—or, less euphemistically lynching mobs—are attempting, by unlawful and brutal means, to force their neighbors to do as they believe ought to be done, or as they want them to do. Surely it is a gratuitous assumption that public opinion is divided concerning the propriety of such conduct according as the opinion in question is wet or dry.

The basic cause of such lawlessness as the floggings in Alabama is not a fanatical regard for prohibition—evil as fanatical anything may be conceded to be—but a backward social development in the state manifested in ignorance on the one hand of the law and the rights and obligations which it entails, and on the other in deliberate disregard of the law, including the disregard shown both by official neglect and by mob violence in the name of the law.

In his address last month opening the 18th annual session of the Tuskegee institute summer school, Principal Robert R. Moton, Booker T. Washington's able successor, made this interesting observation concerning the situation in a neighboring state:—

> I was in Arkansas a few days ago in one of the flooded districts. There I saw some people who did not know they were free; they did not know they could go and come as they pleased. Yes, there were white people who did not know they could go and come without the permission of their landlord for whom some of them had been working for a generation or more.

Such a condition of things as Dr Moton pictures illustrates the failure of democracy to make its spiri understood and respected. The lynch law method of attempting it, attributed to the Klan, is not only about the worst possible method, but is a glaring illustration itself of the fruit of the failure.

RENEWING THE ATTACK ON THE OLD KU KLUX KLAN

Editor The Advertiser:

In his letted on "the old Ku Klux Klan" published in a recent edition of The Advertiser Mr Clyde H. McLendon said "there was a congressional investigation of the klan, but it revealed nothing of the good deeds done by them. It failed to find an instance of any crime committed by them." Now, Mr. Editor, if your correspondent, in view of the documentary facts presented in the letter to which he was replying, can muster sufficient courage to make that statement, wouldn't it be reasonable to suppose that an equally bold correspondent, living and writing sixty years from now, could muster the nerve to declare there was not a single conviction in Blount county, Alabama, during the entire year of 1927, and couldn't the daring correspondent of 1987 declare, with equal confidence, that "there were grand jury investigations in Randolph and Jefferson counties during 1927 but they revealed nothing of the good deeds done by the klan. The investigations failed to find an instance of any crime committed by its members?"

Another amusing declaration made by Mr. McLendon is that "Braxton has made statements that Southern people never heard of." For your correspondent's information, Mr. Editor, allow me to say that I was born in the South, in Alabama, and I am just as proud of the place of my birth and residence as the one who was born in the North, East or West, or on the water, or in the air should be. However, only 36 years of age but having been a confirmed and consistent "bookworm" for a number of years, along with thousands of "Southern people," I was aware of the documentary facts which Mr. McLendon calls "statements." And simply because he had never "heard of" what he calls statements, the correspondent should not think other "Southern people never heard of" them. He should remember that the "true American history" taught in our Southern schools has been treated somewhat like the fundamentalists wish science to be treated—censored. Perhaps your correspondent still thinks George Washington "never told a lie." And, naturally, since his historical knowledge is apparently confined to school texts, the correspondent perhaps knows nothing about the important part Thomas Paine played in the Revolutionary policies which shaped our independency. Had the correspondent consulted the authorities cited in the letter to which he replied, his statements would have been more consistent with historical facts, perhaps.

But this aside, apropos of Captain Goodwyn's "vivid account of the necessity for the old klan" it is freely granted that some unusual measure or force was, from the viewpoint of some noble Southern leaders, absolutely necessary. But obviously, the necessity did not justify the extremely unusual methods employed by the old klan. Resort to the methods used by the klan was a manifestation of serious weakness. Citation of further details relative to those methods is futile. But an impartial comparison of the old klan with the present one will reveal striking similarities. The two organizations are similar in their practice of intimidation; similar in being masked oligarchies; similar in their habits of taking the law in their own hands; similar in their appeal to racial hatred and religious prejudice; similar in the practice of political corruption (think of Indiana and other states, for example); and similar in their tendency to undermine constitutional government.

Evergreen, Ala. W. C. BRAXTON.

REIGN OF TERROR IN STATE LIKENED TO INQUISITION

All Indictments, Except One, Returned Against Members of Klan, Say Officials of Court.

CHIEFS OF ORDER BLAMED BY JURORS

"Barbaric Terrorism of Rule of Mask and Lash Attributed Directly to Evil Leadership."

Luverne, Ala., October 15.—(AP)—Climaxing a week of inquiry into masked violence and a probe into the innermost workings of the Ku Klux klan, a special grand jury late today returned 102 indictments against men charged with complicity in 20 or more lashings in Crenshaw county and made sweeping and sensational charges that men high in the councils of the "invisible empire" were "unworthy of trust."

All indictments except one were against members of the Ku Klux klan and the jury reported that with a single exception all the masked lashings were committeed by members of the klan, wearing hoods and robes of the order.

Klan Heads Assailed.

Likening conditions in Crenshaw county to those which existed during the time of the Spanish inquisition, the grand jury pointed an accusing finger at James Esdale, grand dragon of the klan in Alabama, Cecil Davis, former grand titan of the southern province of the order, the Rev. F. A. Nals, former head of the Georgiana klavern of the klan and Ira B. Thompson, said to be cyclops of the Luverne unit, of the organization.

These men, the grand jury said in its report to Circuit Judge A. E. Gamble, who presided at the hearing, "were derelict in their duty as citizens in their conduct of klan affairs. If they had afforded the leadership in the Ku Klux klan which should have been given by them, these outrages never would have occurred."

Klan at War.

"This barbaric terrorism of the rule of mask and lash," the report continued, "can be attributed directly to evil leadership in the Ku Klux Klan at war with all constituted authorities.

"In all cases, except one, we have found these outrages were committed by hooded mobs wearing the regalia of the Ku Klux Klan, done in bigoted disregard of the courts, born, nurtured, lived, moved and had their being within klavern walls."

"Nothing can be so cowardly, no act can so stir the blood of true citizens as for persons who call themselves men, to gather together behind secret walls and plot and conspire the yellow deeds, the diabolical schemes, the unmerciful lashings and cowardly torturing attacks which have been committed on defenseless men and women, white and black, in this country," the report continued.

"If the men in authority in the klan had done their duty and shown their loyalty to the state that protects their lives, these things would not have happened. If Mr. James Esdale, the grand dragon, had been as attentive to his duties as a citizen as he has been in practicing the art of silence and secrecy, these crimes never would have happened."

Attacks Preacher.

"If the Rev. L. A. Nalls had been as continuously engaged in serving his congregation as in serving brutal floggings to defenseless men and women and attempting to regulate morality behind a Ku Klux Klan mask many of these crimes would not have been committed," the grand jury report continued.

"If he had been less of a lash wielder and more of a preacher of peace, conditions in Crenshaw county would have been better."

In its report the grand jury expressly stated that it did not intend to charge that there are within the klan men who do not measure up to the true standards of citizenship.

"We do not presume to suggest that every man who is a member of the klan is there because of some sinister motive. But still we have found what we believe to be an organization which has either gotten completely out of control of those who control it, or else it has gotten into control at least in part, of certain men who in our judgment, are unworthy of trust."

In conclusion the grand jury passed its work on to the petit juries, urging them not to forget the solemnity of the law in dealing with these cases and "not to be swerved by friend or foe."

45 Persons Named.

Attorney General Charlie C. McCall of Alabama, who personally directed the grand jury investigation, [illegible] persons were mentioned in the 102 indictments. Thirty-seven of these are residents of Crenshaw county he said while eight live in Butler county. Names of the indicted men and the charges against them will not be known until warrants are issued for their arrest. McCall has indicated, however, that he was trying for charges of assault and battery, which when committed by masked persons, is a felony under the laws of Alabama.

Ku Klux Klan - 1927

THREE NEW ARRESTS IN CRENSHAW LASH CASES ARE MADE

Jim Holiday, John Langford and Dewey Bowling Lodged in Montgomery Jail; Close Guard Kept

ABOUT 200 TESTIFY BEFORE GRAND JURORS

Inquisitorial Body Convenes Monday; McCall To Conduct Birmingham Trial

Jim Holliday, John Langford and Dewey Bowling, arrested in connection with the upward of 20 floggings reported to have taken place in Crenshaw county since last spring, were lodged in the Montgomery county jail early Saturday morning, on charges of kidnaping and assault and battery.

In all, eight men are now being held in the county jail at Montgomery on charges growing out of the Crenshaw county lashings. Those previously taken into custody are Willie Shepherd Stallings, Chester Miller, Maxie Miller, Thaxton Miller and Shelby Gregory.

Approximately 200 persons have been subpoenaed to appear before the special session of the Crenshaw county grand jury which will convene at Luverne Monday, to investigate the floggings of citizens reported in the county. Among those summoned are Grand Dragon James Esdale, of the Alabama Ku Klux Klan, Cecil Davis, and Louis McAdory, Jefferson county board of revenue clerk, all of Birmingham; George H. Thigpen, state superintendent of insurance, Montgomery, and Ira B. Thompson, Luverne.

Attorney General Charlie C. McCall, accompanied by Assistant Attorney General John J. Haynes, will leave some time Sunday for Luverne so as to be on hand when the grand jury convenes there early Monday. The special grand jury will be charged by Circuit Judge A. E. Gamble, who upon the request of the attorney general and Governor Bibb Graves, issued the order for the extraordinary session of the Crenshaw inquisitorial body.

Besides Assistant Attorney General Haynes, Attorney General McCall will have assisting him in the presentation of cases to the grand jury, Circuit Solicitor Calvin Poole, and F. P. Bricken, prominent Luverne lawyer, who has been appointed special counsel for the state.

The attorney general has already stated he has enough evidence to indict 80 persons in connection with the floggings in Crenshaw. He has stated also that all but one of the floggings investigated by him in Crenshaw county, were perpetuated by persons wearing the robes of the Ku Klux Klan. On the eve of the convening of the special grand jury, the attorney general regards the situation in Crenshaw, from his point of view, as to the pending investigation—as satisfactory.

Attorney General McCall said Saturday that Solicitor Bart B. Chamberlain, of Mobile county, would be unable to assist him in prosecution of the flogging cases in Jefferson county, which will be called for trial on October 17. At the time he detailed Mr. Chamberlain for duty with him in Birmingham, he said, he did not know of the crowded condition of the circuit court docket in Mobile. In view of this condition, he stated, he has rescinded his order assigning Solicitor Chamberlain to duty in Jefferson.

The attorney general has not yet decided who else if anyone, he will call upon to aid in the prosecutions in Birmingham. It seems possible and even probable that he will tackle the job alone, except for the aid of Assistant Attorney General John Haynes.

RAIDERS SEIZE KLAN RECORDS FOR LASH TRIAL

Move Is Said To Have Been Inspired by Refusal of Testimony by Chiefs of Order.

100 ALABAMA MEN INVOLVED IN PROBE

Attorney General Intimates They Will Face Indictments as Result of 20 Flogging Cases.

Luverne, Ala., October 14.—(AP)—Questioning of James Esdale, grand dragon of the Ku Klux Klan in Alabama, and seizure of records of the Luverne klavern of the klan, featured today's session of the special grand jury investigating masked violence in Crenshaw county.

The state klan chief was closeted with the grand jury for an hour and 20 minutes. He refused to indicate the nature of the questioning, or in what connection he had been called before the investigating body.

Summoned to appear Wednesday, Esdale received word that his presence was desired here until yesterday when he returned from a trip outside the state. He immediately acceded to the request of Attorney General Charlie C. McCall that he appear today.

State officers this afternoon raided the home and office of Ira B. Thompson, reputed cyclops of the Luverne klavern of the klan, and seized all klan records and paraphernalia found there. The articles were taken to the hotel room of Attorney General McCall.

The seizure was made apparently because of the refusal of alleged members of the klan to testify regarding membership in the organization.

Notable among these latter was Cecil Davis, of Birmingham, said to be a former grand titan of the southern province of the Ku Klux klan, who was given a five-day prison sentence by Judge A. E. Gamble for contempt of court following his refusal to answer questions put to him by the grand jury.

Attorney General McCall said late today that no report would be made by the grand jury until tomorrow night at the earliest. He has indicated that the grand jury will return indictments against more than 100 persons for the alleged flogging of 20 or more persons in Crenshaw county during the last two years.

CRENSHAW COUNTY TRIO FACE MURDER, INQUIRY CONTINUES

First Arrests Made in Connection With Crime Committed in July, 1925; Others Will Follow

PRISONERS ARE REPUTED TO BE MEMBERS OF KLAN

Attorney General McCall Will Return Monday to Resume Investigation

Three men have been jailed in connection with the Crenshaw county floggings. The prisoners were brought to the Montgomery county jail late Saturday night by Sheriff Tatum at the direction of Attorney General Charlie C. McCall. This action was taken, it was stated, because of the fact that the Crenshaw county jail has been condemned.

The men held are: Phaxton Miller, Maxie Miller and Shelby Gregory. All three are charged with kidnaping and murder. The specific case which led to their arrest was the unmerciful flogging of Annie Mae Simmons, a negress, in July, 1925, the effects of which proved fatal in the latter part of the year, according to evidence in the possession of McCall.

It is charged that on the night of this flogging a number of men in automobiles drove up to the home of the negro girl and went upon the porch and forcibly took her away, while she screamed for help. She stated before her death that she asked the men what they were taking her away for and what she had done, telling the men that "I have done nothing."

Plead for Help

The negro was placed in the car, taken some distance down the road and into a thicket where she was so severely beaten that she never recovered from the injuries sustaned. It is charged that the flogging was administered with a heavy leather strap and one of the men kicked her during the whipping.

Following the administration of the beating the victim was told to "not let the sun rise on her in Crenshaw county." She proceeded at once to the home of her mother in Greenville, where she remained until her death. She was under the treatment of physicians from the time of the flogging until death relieved her sufferings.

No investigation of the affair has been previously made by the grand jury, it is understood.

Connected With Other Crimes

While the three men are held on the two counts, it is understood that they are also mixed up in some of the many other floggings in Crenshaw county during the past few months. The attorney general states that there are approximately eighty other persons in the county under investigation and further arrests are expected at any time in that lash-ridden county.

Mr. McCall stated that he would return to Crenshaw county Monday for further investigation of crimes which are charged to floggers, most of whom, it is understood, are members of the Ku Klux Klan. In some instances, it is claimed, bands of men administered floggings who were not members of the hooded order, but operated similar to that organization.

The three men held in connection with the death of the negro girl are reputed to be members of the Ku Klux Klan.

BIRMINGHAM, ALA., Oct. 1—(AP)—Elaborating on the statement of Attorney General Charlie C. McCall of Alabama, who told The Birmingham Age-Herald in a telephone call from Luverne, Ala., last night that several deaths have resulted from floggings and kidnappings in Crenshaw county, solicitor Cull Walker today told The Birmingham News that the fire brand has been alternated with the lash by masked whipping parties.

"Burning of barns apparently has proved a diversion for the masked floggers," Mr. Walker said. He reviewed the case of L. H. Gibson, a farmer living near Luverne.

Gibson "called down" the masked assailants of a negro who worked on his farm, the Crenshaw county prosecutor told The News. On the following night his barn was destroyed by fire, with a loss of more than $5,000.

A "reign of terror" exists in Crenshaw county, where several deaths have resulted from more than twenty floggings and kidnappings, Attorney General McCall last night told The Age-Herald.

"More than 150 persons are involved in the whippings with the mask and hood used in 90 per cent of the cases," he said. Ninety-three whipping cases are under investigation in the state, the attorney general said, with the names of suspects and victims to be announced at the completion of the present investigation in Crenshaw county.

CRENSHAW CITIZENS APPEAL TO M'CALL FOR FUNDS TO LIVE

Ask Protection of Alabama From Men Who Hound Them and Threaten Homes in Intimidation Effort

ATTORNEY GENERAL ISSUES WARNING TO MEDDLERS

Several Men in Pitiful Plight;

Driven From Homes in Fear of Lives

Harassed and intimidated by uninvited guests who have visited their homes during the hours of night, some of the state's witnesses in the Crenshaw [illegible] have fled the county; are afraid to return and have appealed to Attorney General Charlie C. McCall for aid and assistance during their absence from their home county.

The attorney general made this known in a statement issued yesterday afternoon, in which he scored in scathing terms [illegible] of intimidation of witnesses, and made plain that he will use every means at his command to punish those guilty of such a practice. Further, the attorney general has advised all witnesses who have been placed in fear by nocturnal visitations, he stated, that they may resist anyone attempting to enter their homes uninvited, with as much or such force as they may deem necessary.

Conditions as to intimidation of state's witnesses in Crenshaw county are such, Attorney General McCall said, that he expects to present the situation to the governor at his first opportunity. Governor Bibb Graves will be in Tuscaloosa all day Wednesday, attending the annual meeting of the board of trustees of the Alabama state hospital for the insane, and the attorney general will therefore, probably not have an opportunity to confer with him before Thursday.

The statement of Attorney General McCall, issued yesterday afternoon, follows:

Wants Early Report

"If any good, right thinking citizen in Crenshaw county, there are many, hears of any attempts to intimidate or do bodily harm to any other citizen of Crenshaw who is connected in any way with the finding of the 102 indictments by the grand jury there recently, as the result of the investigation of floggings in Crenshaw, it is their duty to report all such matters to me immediately.

"If any one of the defendants or any other member of the Ku Klux Klan visits the home of any one of the state's witnesses in the Crenshaw county cases, without an invitation from the occupants of the residences, I shall make it my business to have him arrested and dealt with for contempt of court and obstructing justice. I am advising each witness who has been placed in fear by such visits, that his home is his castle and that he may resist any attempt to enter therein without invitation, with as much or such force as he deems necessary to protect himself and his home.

"In my investigations of floggings by hooded mobs in Alabama, this is not the first time that I have been informed of their cowardly tactics. I have heretofore protected state witnesses from violence as best I could, and I am going to continue to do so. This 'monkey business' of intimidators is taxing my patience and ought to create a spirit of alertness on the part of every executive officer, from the highest to the lowest.

Pitiful Plight

"This statement as to intimidation of witnesses is inspired by the pitiful plight of several witnesses in the Crenshaw county cases who have been literally driven from their homes by nocturnal visits and harassment that has been carried to the extreme where they are not only out of employment, but are in fear for their lives. They have come to me for financial aid from the state. There is no provision made for such a situation. Probably our lawmakers could not visualize such a condition arising in this state. I cannot help these people in a financial way. It is deplorable, but it is a fact that this thing has happened in Alabama.

"I expect to present the situation to the governor of the state at my first opportunity."

Regarding a printed report yesterday afternoon that he and his assistants were preparing to investigate masked depredations in three other counties including the county of Butler, Attorney General McCall said the report was not obtained from him or any other authoritative source.

MR. THIGPEN ON CONFLICTING OATHS

Mr. George H. Thigpen, said to be Great Titan of the Southern province of the Ku Klux Klan, and known to be State Superintendent of Insurance of the State of Alabama, is to be thanked for his candor, in discussing an important principle. In an interview in The Advertiser, Mr. Thigpen, a recent witness before the Crenshaw county grand jury, takes pains to emphasize his attitude toward Klan and State.

Even though sworn to tell a grand jury the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth, Mr. Thigpen declares, according to an Advertiser reporter:

"Had they (grand jurors) asked me if Ira B. Thompson were exalted cyclops of the Luverne Klavern at the time I lectured there, I would have refused to answer—because to answer I would have violated my oath—." What oath—the one pledging him to tell the whole truth to the grand jury of the county of Crenshaw in the sovereign State of Alabama? Not at all: "Because to answer I would have violated my oath to the Klan."

What an amazing statement! Here is an oathbound official of the State, directing one of the most important bureaus of the State government, and but recently an oathbound witness before a grand jury declaring that as an oathbound citizen of the Invisible Empire his secret pledge takes precedence over his other pledges

Mr. Thigpen is a citizen of the Invisible Empire and is said to be an officer in that empire. He is also a citizen of the State of Alabama, and is known to be an officer in the government of that State But when the interests of Empire and State clash in the heart and mind of Mr. Thigpen when he is in the courtrooms of the State, Mr. Thigpen frankly avows that he feels bound to side with the secret order.

This avowal, apart from its more obvious significance, is of special interest because of the inconsistency in the philosophy of Mr. Thigpen, which reveals. Mr. Thigpen and other Klansmen are against the Roman Catholic Heirarchy because, as they profess to believe, the first loyalty of a good Catholic is to the Vatican and not to the government of his country. This is the theory on which they indict the Catholic church.

Yet Mr. Thigpen, according to his statement in The Advertiser, assumes a mental attitude toward Hi Evans' palace somewhat similar to the mental attitude which he professes to believe an American Catholic assumes toward the Vatican in Rome.

That this point of view of Mr. Thigpen's is by no means novel was recently illustrated by the action of Cecil Davis, a former Great Titan, in refusing to answer certain questions before the Crenshaw grand jury, and on account of which he was sent to jail for five days for contempt of court.

Indeed, one is led to inquire if this point of view is characteristic of all faithful Klansmen. It is especially pertinent to inquire what other public officials who are Klansmen think of Mr. Thigpen's statement of attitude. Does the Governor of Alabama, who appointed Mr. Thigpen to an important State office, hold with Mr. Thigpen that it is proper for a citizen of the Invisible Empire to pick and choose the questions which he will answer before a grand jury? Does Senator Heflin another darling of the Klan, applaud or condemn the Thigpen point of view? Does Senator Hugo Black, another friend of the Invisible Caesar, hold with the Superintendent of Insurance?

Mr. Thigpen, having the courage of his convictions, does not hesitate to make clear his attitude, amazing and regrettable though that attitude may be. But many other public officials have not been so frank. The public has a right to know how they stand on this principle—for an important principle of government and good citizenship is involved. The public not only is aware of its rights in the premises, but it is frankly curious—and awaits the pleasure of the men whom it has honored with important places, and bids them speak on the principle of conflicting oaths.

ALABAMA KLAN LEADER GIVEN JAIL SENTENCE

Cecil Davis, Said To Be Former Grand Titan, Pays Penalty of Contempt of Court.

WITNESS DEFIES FLOGGING PROBERS

Birmingham Man Tells Judge He Has Taken Oath Not to Reveal Information Sought.

Luverne, Ala., October 13.—(AP)—Cecil Davis, of Birmingham, said to be former grand titan of the southern province of the Ku Klux Klan, was sentenced to five days in the county jail by Judge A. E. Gamble today for contempt of court in refusing to answer questions of the grand jury investigating masked violence in Crenshaw county.

The questions which Davis refused to answer, it is said, related to the membership of Ira Thompson, a witness in the flogging investigation, in the Luverne klavern of the klan.

David told Judge Gamble that he refused to answer the questions because he had "taken a prior oath" obligating himself not to answer them.

Esdale To Appear.

James Esdale, grand dragon of the Ku Klux Klan in Alabama, will be questioned tomorrow by the grand jury. This was learned today when the klan head, returning to Birmingham after a tr[illegible] outside of the state, wired Attorney General Charlie C McCall that he had just learned of the summons for him and would present himself before the grand jury if he was wanted.

Mr. McCall immediately telegraphed Esdale to report tomorrow "if possible." The attorney general has not indicated in what connection the klan head will be questioned.

This fact, coupled with the recall today of George H. Thigpen, state superintendent of insurance, and four men who are alleged to have taken part in Crenshaw county floggings, was taken as an indication that the grand jury will make no report before tomorrow night at the earliest.

Denies Confessions.

Mr. McCall took occasion today to vigorously deny published reports yesterday that the four men, Shelby Gregory, J. P. Williamson, Phaxton and Maxie Miller, had turned state's evidence, confessed their parts in the masked floggings and implicated others.

Attorney General McCall, who has personally directed the investigation, has indicated that more than 100 indictments will be returned by the grand jury in connection with 20 or more floggings in Crenshaw county during the last two years.

Alabama.

Ku Klux Klan - 1927

NOW, LET OTHERS RESIGN!

Believing that many leaders of the Ku Klux Klan in Alabama are "at war with constituted authority," that the Klan, as at present led and governed, "is the greatest menace to constituted authority" in the State, knowing that Klan leaders are capable of "banishing" members of the order "for telling the truth," and knowing that some of these leaders have "intimidated" law-abiding members of the Klan, one high official in the government of Alabama resigns unconditionally from this secret order. Advertiser

The Attorney-General of Alabama concludes that in the light of the Klan's record as exposed since July 1, he cannot afford longer to dignify the order with his membership in it. His sense of public duty impels him to withdraw.

This is an admirable movement, and we trust it will spread. We commend it to the prayerful consideration of every public official in the State of Alabama, from the Governor on down to, and including, notaries public, and certainly all justices of the peace.

10-21-27

Governor Graves cannot longer retain his membership in the Klan without embarrassment, and he ought to resign. All of his appointees who are members of the Klan should be asked by the Governor to relinquish their membership in this intractable order; especially should the Governor request the resignation from the Klan of two recent beneficiaries of the appointing power at the capitol who in appearing as witnesses before the Crenshaw county grand jury found that their Klan oath was a source of embarrassment to them—so much so that one of them went to jail rather than yield to the demand of the court to answer certain questions about the Klan. Montgomery Ala

There are Klansmen on the bench in Alabama; many circuit solicitors are Klansmen, and many sheriffs as well. Certainly all of these officers of the law should promptly follow the lead of the Attorney-General and repudiate the lawless element in the Klan by getting out.

Finally, our two United States Senators and many members of the House of Representatives from Alabama, who, like the Senators, may be Klansmen—and some of them are—should realize that they cannot afford longer to affiliate with an organization which has become a "menace to constituted authority" in Alabama.

Every minister of the gospel in Alabama who is a citizen of the Invisible Empire—and there are many such ministers—viewing in retrospect the recent record of lawlessness charged by grand juries and confirmed by petit juries against the Ku Klux Klan, cannot blink this arraignment of the Klan by Charlie McCall. Christian ministers cannot afford longer to affiliate with an order which, as now led and governed, is a "menace to constituted authority" in Alabama.

The plain and humble citizens of good intentions who went into the Klan believing in its principles, only in the end to see his membership in it become a source of embarrassment and disappointment to him, ought to withdraw.

THE THREAT OF FEDERAL INTERVENTION

It is to be hoped that the United States Department of Justice will not heed the request of Representative Martin Madden for Federal intervention in the Alabama flogging scandals. Madden, a Chicago congressman, has laid before the department a comprehensive account of the atrocities committed against helpless Alabamians by their fellow citizens. He asks the department to weigh the facts in this distressing account and then move to punish the people who have violated the constitutional rights of citizens in this State. Mr. Madden has been deeply stirred by The Chicago Tribune's accounts of outrages committed in Alabama and his method of protest is to ask the attorney general of the United States to take action against the lawless element in Alabama. Advertiser 11-20-27

While it is not to be denied that this is a warning which the people of Alabama and their public officials may well take to heart for whatever it may be worth, the threat is to be resisted until the officials of Alabama demonstrate the futility of local efforts to protect citizens in their constitutional rights. Montgomery Ala

As it is, floggers have been indicted and convicted in two Alabama counties, and other floggers are under indictment and awaiting trial in several other counties. Not by any means all of the persons guilty of these outrages in Alabama have been indicted. In Randolph County, for example, a determined Grand Jury was forced to admit that it was unable to obtain sufficient information on which to indict persons involved in the 17 floggings of men and women, white and black, in that county.

Nevertheless the State has been successful in obtaining indictments in many instances and its investigations are by no means at an end. It is to be expected that other indictments will be obtained.

This threat of Federal intervention comes at a time when the State, under the leadership of the attorney general, is preparing to go to trial in a number of important cases.

The Advertiser believes that it would be a mistake for the United States attorney general to act favorably upon the representations made to him by Representative Madden—at least for the present.

The State of Alabama should be allowed a free hand in working out this problem. It is an Alabama problem. The responsibility is Alabama's. It is very much to be desired that the evil should be attacked and destroyed by the people on whom the responsibility primarily rests.

It would be humiliating to the pride and dignity of the State for the United States Government, by means of a doubtful legal expedient, to obtrude itself into the Alabama picture at this time. Even as it would humiliate Chicago for Uncle Sam to try his hand at putting down murder gangs in that city.

It is true that the victims of the masked brute in Alabama are citizens of the United States and are entitled to the protection of its laws. But it is equally true that they are residents of Alabama, that the attacks upon them were done in violation of Alabama laws and that these attacks were committed by Alabama persons. Alabama must bring its own offenders to justice, and it is the hope and belief of The Advertiser that the conscience of the law-abiding citizens of this State will see to it that these wrongs are avenged.

Nevertheless, as we have said, it is perhaps just as well that the people of Alabama should be reminded that any citizen of this State on whom outrages have been perpetrated seems to have the right to appeal to the United States Government to protect him.

For this and other good reasons it is apparent that the time has come for the State of Alabama definitely to avenge wrongs against its citizens.

AFTER THE FLOGGERS.

Attorney General Charles C. McCall, of Alabama, is to be warmly commended for the courage and vigor he is demonstrating in getting at the facts in the recent Crenshaw county floggings, and in bringing the hooded gangsters who are guilty of law defiance to feel the power and the force of the law.

In convening a special session of the Crenshaw grand jury, which is now in session, he issued the following statement: Constitution

"I'm going to the bat in Crenshaw. I'm going to indict the people who have practiced the idea that this is a government of men instead of laws by snooping around in the darkness of night and whipping other folks. I'm not going to stand for perjured statements or intimidation, and efforts to corrupt the due administration of justice."

In personally taking charge of these investigations and prosecutions the commonwealth of Alabama, through its attorney general is doing splendid service in vindicating its good name by wiping out hoodlumism from the state.

Local prosecuting officials can usually be trusted, but the active participation of the state's attorney general necessarily strengthens and quickens the state's cases and lessens the possibilities of intimidation and perjury. 10-11-27

Too many masked night riders have been immune from the cooperation of all patriotic, law-abiding citizens in Crenshaw, regardless of their affiliations. We don't need any liars under the banner of justice. Advertiser

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16-11-27

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Local prosecuting officials can believe themselves immune from the law they so flagrantly defy.

Too many masked night riders

Attorney General Of Alabama Quits Klan Organization

"I Am of Opinion Order Is Greatest Menace to Constituted Authority," He Says.

NO AID IS GIVEN LAW, HE CHARGES

Action of Charles C. McCall Is Result of His Investigation of Flogging Epidemic.

Montgomery, Ala., October 9.—(AP) In a scathing denunciation of activities of the Ku Klux Klan i the state of Alabama in which he said that he is convinced "that the organization is in the hands of a lawless leadership," Attorney General Charlie C. McCall tonight tendered his unconditional resignation from the organization.

In his letter of resignation the attorney general, who brought to light recent floggings in Oneonta, Blount county, and in Crenshaw county and personally directed prosecution in the former, charged that "instead of aiding constituted authorities in their efforts to ferret out crimes committed by klan members," the leaders have spread a wave of intimidation over many law-abiding citizens therein, and have dealt in caustic and cowardly remarks concerning motives of officers of the law who have sought and are seeking to enforce the law.

McCall said that he is of the opinion "which opinion is based on a thorough investigation of crimes and activities of leaders, that the Ku Klux Klan in Alabama is the greatest menace to constituted authority.

Letter of Resignation.

"To the Exalted Cyclops, Klan No. 3, Province No. 2, Realm of Alabama Invisible Empire, Knights of the Ku Klux Klan, Montgomery, Ala. Sirs

"I stand for those fundamental principles which the klan has publicly pronounced, that is to say, for the protestion and preservation of Protestantism, taking Christ as a criterion of character in daily practice and precept; for the protection, growth and perpetuation of the free public schools as an established institution of learning; for the preservation and advancement of the Anglo-Saxon race for strict immigration laws; for the cultivation of a national spirit and an esprit de corps; for the protection of America and my state from a polyglot and unassimilable people; for fraternalism properly balanced and law-abiding; for the protection of the individual in his right to worship God in a law-abiding way, in the manner and in the church of his choice; for aiding the duly constituted officers of the law, when called upon to do so in the efficient enforcement of the law; for men whom the spoils of office cannot buy and whom the lust of office cannot kill, and for men, tall men, sun-crowned, who can dare treacherous flattery without winking I shall forever stand for these principles in my public, as well as personal relations with my fellows.

"Lawless Leadership."

"When I entered the klan I sincerely believed in these principles and I sincerely believed that the klan practiced, as well as pronounced them I have seen no public statement of the klan as a whole reniging from these principles. However, in the course of my investigation of the activities of the klan in this state, I have become convinced that the klan in Alabama is in the hands of a lawless leadership. I have become convinced that it is not the purpose or intent of its leaders to aid the duly constituted officers of the law in their efforts to enforce the criminal laws where crimes are committed by its leadership. I have become personally convinced that many of these crimes by hooded mobs which I have investigated have been plotted and planned by klan leaders and the perpetrators of those crimes have been encouraged and shielded in the commission thereof.

"Instead of the leaders of the klan in this state aiding the duly constituted officers of the law in their efforts to ferret out crimes committed by klan members, the leaders of this organization, contrary to those fundamentals they publicly pronounce, have spread a wave of intimidation over many law-abiding members therein, and have dealt in caustic and cowardly remarks concerning the motives and action of officers of the law who have sought and are seeking to enforce the law. Many of these leaders, in my judgment, are responsible for the wave of lashing and floggings which have taken place in this state, and many members of the klan are placed in fear of drastic action by its present state rulers, if they tell the truth in courts.

"For my part, I regard my oath as an officer of the law superior to any private or fraternal obligation I can take, and I do not feel that I should follow longer behind the banner and under the leadership of those leaders in their religious, political and criminal connivings, placing themselves at war with constituted authorities. I will not be a follower under the leadership of men who denounce officers of the laws for doing their duty. I will not be at the call or fraternal command of leaders of an organization, which banishes its members for telling the truth in courts of justice. As presently dominated, governed and led, I am of the opinion, which opinion is based on a thorough investigation of crimes and activities of leaders, that the klan in Alabama is the greatest menace to constituted authority.

"I therefore submit to you my unconditional resignation therein.

"Yours truly,

(Signed) "CHARLIE C. MCALL."

REPORT OF PROBE OF KLAN DENIED.

Montgomery, Ala., October 10.—(AP) Attorney General Charlie C. McCall today denied reports that he had launched a state-wide investigation of the Ku Klux Klan in Alabama. He branded the reports as false and of having come from sources unauthorized by him.

"Any statement credited to me, regarding such procedure is untrue," the attorney general said, "and I have no comment to make as to what I might do in the future."

Mr. McCall declined to reveal his plans for future investigations of floggings in the state. He did not deny that some action in the future would be taken.

GRAND JURY PROBE OF FLOGGING CASES WILL START TODAY

Two Accused Men Furnish Bond, One for $30,000 and the Other $10,000, on Eve of Investigation

CLAIM EVIDENCE ADEQUATE TO INDICT EIGHTY PERSONS

McCall to Handle Inquiry; Charges Floggers Wore Regular Klan Robes

Armed with evidence which he claims is sufficient to indict eighty floggers in Crenshaw county, Attorney General Charlie C. McCall left Montgomery Sunday afternoon for Luverne, where a special term of the grand jury will begin investigations today. Judge A. E. Gamble will leave his court at Greenville long enough to empanel and charge the inquisitors and return later in the week to receive the report, it is understood.

Elmer Hill and Dewey Bowling, two of the eight men arrested and lodged in the Montgomery county jail during the past week, on charges growing out of the lashing of citizens in more than a score of floggings that Attorney General Charlie C. McCall states have taken place in the county of Crenshaw during the past eight months, have made bond.

Hill, who furnished bond in the sum of $30,000, is alleged to have participated in three of the floggings in Crenshaw. Bowling, whose bond was fixed at $10,000, is charged with kidnapping and assault and battery. The other prisoners, Jim Holliday, John Langford, Willie Shepherd Stallings, Max Miller, Thaxton Miller and Shelby Gregory, are still in jail and will remain there pending further action of the attorney general's department, it became known Sunday.

Attorney General McCall, on the eve of convening of the special term of the Crenshaw county grand jury, Monday morning at 10 o'clock for the purpose of investigating the series of lashings there, stated late Sunday afternoon, just before leaving Montgomery for Luverne:

"I'm going to the bat in Crenshaw. I'm going to indict the people who have practiced the idea that this is a government of men instead of laws, by snooping around in the darkness of night and whipping other folks. I'm not going to stand for perjured statements or intimidation, and efforts to corrupt the due administration of justice will not be tolerated. I request the cooperation of all patriotic, law-abiding citizens in Crenshaw, regardless of their affiliations. We don't need any hark under the banner of justice."

The special grand jury will be charged by Circuit Judge A. E. Gamble, upon whose order, issued at the urgent request of the attorney general and Governor Bibb Graves, the county inquisitorial body was convened.

No New Judge Necessary

Chief Justice John C. Anderson said Sunday evening, there will be no necessity for him to assign another judge to the trial of cases in Greenville where Judge Gamble has been holding court. He said Judge Gamble will go to Luverne Monday morning, and after organizing and charging the grand jury, will return to Greenville and resume the hearing of cases there. He added that when the grand jury is ready, Judge Gamble will go back to Luverne to receive that body's report.

Attorney General McCall has stated that more than ninety separate matters in connection with the Crenshaw whippings will be presented by him to the grand jury at Luverne. In the presentation of these matters, he will be aided by Assistant Attorney General John J. Haynes, Circuit Solicitor Calvin Poole, and Special State's Counsel F. P. Bricken, prominent Luverne lawyer.

Included among the 175 to 200 persons summoned to appear before the special grand jury, Attorney General McCall has announced, are James Esdale, grand dragon of the Alabama Ku Klux Klan, Birmingham; Louis McAdory and Cecil Davis, also of Birmingham; George H. Thigpen, state superintendent of insurance, of Montgomery, and Ira B. Thompson, of Luverne.

According to Attorney General McCall, all of the floggings he has investigated in Crenshaw county have, with one exception, been perpetrated by persons wearing the regular robes of the Ku Klux Klan.

BALTIMORE, MI
Sun
SEP 17 1927

Discouraging A Bad Business Practice.

An Alabama Negro named Hitt is said to have been frightened by floggers into selling his land for much less than it is worth. The purchaser has been indicted, along with several men accused of being members of the flogging party.

This shows that Alabama boosters can see through a grindstone if there is a hole in it. Alabama's wealth is largely in her land. Any activity that depresses the price of farm land is against the best interests of Alabama. Flogging, certainly in this instance, is proved to be a depressing influence upon realty values.

No wonder Alabama prepares to send floggers to the penitentiary.

LASH VICTIM'S ALLEGED LOVER IS RELEASED

Miss Marie Bishop and Parents Missing From Florence

FLORENCE, ALA., Sept. 21.—(AP)—Marie Bishop, alleged flogging victim and her parents, were still missing tonight, and Kelly, the girl's reputed sweetheart, under indictments for assault and kidnaping in connection with the alleged flogging was free from jail on bond.

Kelly's trial was continued yesterday when his accusers failed to appear and search by officers for the Bishops tonight had proved unavailing.

Ku Klux Klan - 1927 I

Alabama

He Was From Missouri; He Was Scared of Kluxers—

Some Alabama Kluxers, encouraged by their triumph in electing a Governor and other high state and county officials, appear to have given the state a black eye with the people of other states. This was brought to light Sunday night when a tourist from Missouri inquired of a policeman on Dexter avenue whether it was safe for him to attempt to travel at night through Alabama.

There was no doubt about the Missourian being nervous. The columnist happened to be standing by when he drove up to the curb and called to the policeman. "Cap," said the Missourian, "would it be safe for me to go on through Montgomery tonight. I am anxious to reach Pensacola. I've got my wife and little children with me and we would travel through the night if we were not afraid the Ku Klux would get us on the road."

"There's no danger in traveling by night through Alabama," said the policeman. "You go right on out Perry street, following the road number to Luverne and Andalusia, and then you can get your directions to Pensacola."

"Why are you scared in Alabama?" asked the columnist of the Missourian. "We saw in the Jefferson City papers about hundreds of floggings in Alabama, many of the victims being women. We didn't know whether it would be safe to travel or not."

"You will be perfectly safe," we replied. "These floggers you read about are not in the habit of harming strangers. They usually flog their neighbors and that industry is considerably on the wane in Alabama right now."

"We'll try it," said the Missourian, as he pointed his flivver out South Perry street.

KLUXERS AND HOODED RIDERS TO FIGURE CONSPICUOUSLY IN TRIAL FOR LASHING GIRL

Mrs. Fannie Clements Daniel, Only White Wom Victim Of Floggers In Crenshaw, Puts Blame On Klan; Masked Mob Routed By Mrs. Tomlin

The Ku Klux Klan and masked and hooded floggers, conspicuous b their absence in the first of the Crenshaw County flogging cases, if the evidence submitted in court follows the story revealed by Mrs. Fannie Clement Daniel the victim and that revealed by Atty. Gen. Charlie C. McCall after hi investigations, will be the predominating feature of the second case, which scheduled for trial Monday.

The case is the only one in which indictments were returned where a white woman was beaten. The remainder of the victims were white men or negroes.

According to the account of the flogging given by the young woman, they came, masked and robed, to her country home, where she lives alone with her mother. They entered the house by force, wrenching a shotgun with which the mother attempted to defend her home from the intruders, it was said. They seized the daughter and searched the house for a man they accused her of having there, she said. They told her she must accompany them on a search through the night for him, forcing her to dress in a room into which they entered while she was clothing herself, she related.

Then she relates after she had dressed, changing their minds, they held her across a bed and beat her.

Afterwards one of them, still accusing her of an affair with the man slapped her across the face when she argued with him, she charges.

The only other case in which white women were attacked by alleged Klansmen is that of Mrs. C. V. Acreman and her sister, Mrs. Sally Tomlin. Mrs. Tomlin was spending the night with her sister on the occasion when masked men in two automobiles approached the house. Mrs. Acreman seized a shotgun and fired at them.

Routed Mob

Mrs. Tomlin, taking the gun from her sister after one shot had been fired, shot at the hooded figures, forcing them to return to the road and their automobiles.

Later, they state, Mrs. Acreman's home was entered while she was absent and her furniture riddled with shotgun fire.

The affair, which occurred several years ago, is said by them to have been occasioned by animosity which was the outgrowth of a dispute over the poisoning of a dog.

The case of Travis Bozeman is the only other case in which indictments were returned for an assault upon a white victim. The flogging occurred in the latter part of July or early part of August, 1926. Mr. Bozeman, in company with his cousin, Cue Bozeman, who is under indictment in the case, left his home and while traveling along a country road was set upon and severely beaten by a band of masked men, it is said.

One of the negro cases which has attracted wide attention in Crenshaw County is that of Hillary Miller. Miller is widely known as a faithful, law abiding man and one who has many white friends in the county.

L. B. RAINEY SENDS MESSAGE CHIDING HIM FOR SILENCE

Appeals To Governor To Join Other Leaders To End Reign Of Mask and Lash in Alabama Forever

GOOD OF ALABAMA PEOPLE DECLARED PARAMOUNT ISSUE

Warns Of Danger Of Lenine-Trotzky Reign If Invisible Empire Triumphs

Chiding Gov. Graves for his silence and challenging the chief executive to "openly declare for law enforcement, abolition of mob violence" and with determination to put the forces of the state behind such a declaration, L. B. Rainey, former congressman of Gadsden, today openly joined other leaders in an appeal to end forever the reign of mask and lash in Alabama.

The appeal was in the form of a letter received in the executive offices today, and copies of which were given the press. The letter, however, has not reached Gov. Graves, who was at home Monday suffering with a slight attack of influenza. Receipt of the message was acknowledged by John Tilley, private secretary to the governor.

The letter declares that the "good of Alabama and her people is the paramount issue" and that the question is "Shall law or anarchy prevail in Alabama?"

Tribute To McCall

Mr. Rainey pays tribute to the press of the state and the "fearless leadership" of Charlie C. McCall, attorney general. But for these two factors, he cites, "who knows but within the next five years growing and entrenching itself, there should arise, as exponents of the invisible government, a Lenine and a Trotzky?"

The backbone of the creature that threatened Alabama has been broken, the governor is told, and the "bridge that carried you into the state's White House has been demolished."

"You are, and have been all along, reticent," the message reads. "However, there is a public conviction as to your sentiments. It cannot be said that you are yet wavering. You have not, if psychological indications count, reached the oscillating stage. There can be no reward now through inaction, no credit to come, no ambition to be realized in clinging to the deck of a scuttled ship."

High praise is meted the attorney general, whom Mr. Rainey declares has risen above petty controversies and reached "the sublime degree of a faithful and fearless public servant whose service redounds to the credit and to the safety of the state."

Political Ship Wrecked

"You, too, may avail yourself of the opportunity—to say nothing of the duty of a governor in such matters—of sharing in patriotic endeavor in bringing, firmly and decisively, the strong arm of the governor into the fight for the supremacy of the law and the constitution," the letter continues. "Neither abuse, persuasions nor petitions move you—so it appears. Perhaps you have not yet realized the whole rear end of your political ship is 'busted'.

"In all candor and earnestness, governor, I should rejoice to see you openly declare for law enforcement, abolition of mob violence, and with determination put the forces and power of the state behind such a declaration.

"I am not seeking to harass you. I am not in politics and no office do I covet. I have touched the hem of the purple robes of political victory and found that touch was cold and from such aspirations and ambitions I am now far removed.

The sole purpose in writing the letter, Mr. Rainey declares, is to contribute a part in the crystallization of a sentiment demanding law and order "and carrying the conviction straight to your soul that you, as our chief executive, are expected to move to prompt and decisive action.

"Do not permit a fancied loyalty to those who impaled you in office to deter you for one moment," Mr. Rainey pleads. "We need no man for governor who is not brave, fearless in the discharge of his duty, determined, farseeing, alert in action and devoutly consecrated to the cause of a whole people. You measure up to that high standard, and the dawn of that day will mark the sublime epoch in the history of your life—a shrine to you and a glorious epoch to the sons and daughters of Alabama."

The letter closes with an expression of sympathy for the good men in the Klan, which has been made the "ambition of despotic and unprincipled politicians" and plunged "down into the damnable realms of anarchy and chaos."

Mr. Rainey is a native of Dadeville, Ala. Previous to his election to congress from the Seventh District, he served as solicitor for the Etowah County Circuit Court.

Gov. Graves declined to comment on the letter until he had the opportunity to return to his office and read it.

The text of Mr. Rainey's letter to Gov. Graves follows:

"Hon. Bibb Graves,
"Governor of Alabama,
"Montgomery, Ala.
"Dear Sir:

"No man can reverence more than I the high office you now hold. I did not support you for that office, and neither did I support any of the candidates in your line up. So far as I know all were elected under the present primary system. A strong organization concentrated upon certain candidates, with a field of opposition split asunder, rendered your solid phalanx, like that of Philip of Macedon, invincible—this I foresaw. Had I been either an admirer or a supporter I should have packed my grip preparatory to attending your inauguration at the first echo from the secret walls housing the nominating conclave.

"The good of Alabama and her people is the paramount issue. In this regard you can now be of inestimable service to your state. The taxing power of the legislature and its exercise of that power to the nth degree has already been thoroughly demonstrated to the detriment of the state and its people. That issue has been decided, and decided adversely to the taxpayer.

"At this time Alabama has reached the crisis in an issue of supreme importance. The question is: Shall law or anarchy prevail in Alabama?"

Warns of Sovietism

"The excavations made during the past six months through the office of the attorney general of this state and its co-diggers, reveal the horrible, cruel and cowardly acts of a lawless element shrouded in hoods, robes, secrecy and darkness. These revelations, when considered together with the election results of the last primary, the wholesale appointment of klansmen by you as governor, the klan lobby in opposition to the Williams anti-mask bill, the evasive nature, the non-committal manner, the secretion of documentary evidence by klan heads during lawful and constitutional investigations by your state government into midnight floggings of helpless and defenseless persons, establish, beyond all question, the existence of an invisible empire within the very heart of a sovereign state of a free republic.

"But for the activities of the press of this state, the fearless prosecutions and investigations by the attorney general, who knows but within the next five years, growing and entrenching itself, there should arise, as exponents of the invisible government, a Lenine and a Trotsky. Certainly such was the trend.

"However, governor, the bridge that carried you into the state's white house has been demolished, and neither you nor other members of the klan shall ever cross that bridge again into public office. You are, and have been all along, reticent. However, there is a public conviction as to your sentiments. It cannot be said that you are yet wavering. You have not, if

psychological indications count, reached the oscillating stage.

"You probably have not yet awakened to a full realization that the backbone of the creature that threatened Alabama has been broken. Whatever motives may be attributed to Charlie McCall, the results obtained are highly satisfactory to citizens of Alabama who love law, order and a free government.

"There can be no reward now through inaction, no credit to come, no ambition to be realized in clinging to the deck of a scuttled and sinking ship. Charlie McCall arose from less than obscurity, for in the beginning of his career as attorney general, with his controversies and his so-called 'inauguration,' he became too well known at that time to be popular, but he has surmounted all these petty things, and as the eagle rises above the mists of miasmic swamps, so has McCall risen above those things until now he has reached the sublime degree of a faithful and fearless public servant, whose service redounds to the credit and to the safety of the state.

"You, too, may avail yourself of the opportunity (to say nothing of the duty of a governor in such matters) of sharing in patriotic endeavor by bringing, firmly and decisively, the strong arm of the governor into the fight for the supremacy of law and the constitution. Neither abuse, persuasions nor petitions move you—so it appears Perhaps you have not yet realized the whole rear end of your political ship has 'busted.'

"Personally, I do not believe in abuse and I have seen some stinging editorials, letters and mocking cartoons hurled at you. These, perhaps, have aroused an innate stubbornness in you. It is to be hoped, both for your own good and especially that of the state, that you will make a logical survey of the entire situation and do all in your power, backed by all the resources of the state, to put Alabama back on the map of states as a law abiding, law-loving commonwealth.

Pleads For Lawfulness

"In order that your state may prosper and grow the people at home, as well as those who would come here, must realize and must know that Alabama is a safe and decent state in which to live.

"With all candor and earnestness, governor, I should rejoice to see you openly declare for law enforcement, abolition of mob violence and with determination put the forces and power of the state behind such a declaration. I want you to understand that this letter is written for the sole purpose of reaching your mind and heart with the conviction that the law abiding people of Alabama, those who love and take pride in our great state, demand that the blots of shame and cowardice besmirching her fair escutcheon be obliterated.

"I am not seeking to harass you, am not in politics, and no office do covet. I have touched the hem of the purple robes of political victory and found that touch was cold and from such aspirations and ambitions I am now far removed.

"This letter will go to the press for the sole purpose of contributing my share to that crystallization of public sentiment demanding law and order in Alabama, and carrying the conviction straight to your soul that you, as our chief executive, are expected to move to prompt and decisive action Do not permit a fancied loyalty to those who impaled you in office to deter you for one moment. The two greatest duties for you to perform, and in the full performance of which only you may acquit yourself with credit are:

"First, to God; second, to country.

"We need no man for Governor who is not brave, fearless in the discharge of duty, determined, farseeing, alert in action and devoutly consecrated to the cause of the whole people. You measure up to that high standard, and the dawn of that day will mark the sublime epoch in the history of your life—a shrine to you and a glorious heritage to the sons and daughters of Alabama.

"In closing let me say in behalf of those who constitute the rank and file of the Ku Klux Klan, those men who are honest, men who, under honest convictions, stood up on the platform of that order with no other purpose, as they understood it, than to serve God, home and country. These men—when that order was plunged by the selfishness and greed of men, the ambition of despotic and unprincipled politicians, down into the damnable realms of anarchy and chaos—deserve have the profound sympathy of all understanding people.

"I trust that your path of duty, to you, is clearly visioned straight ahead of you, an dthat you, with intrepid bravery, will walk that path to the goal of worthy and honorable achievement.

"Very respectfully yours,

"L. B. RAINEY,

"Gadsden, Ala."

NEW FLOGGING NET SNARES FIVE MEN IN MORGAN COUNTY

Indicted by Grand Jury on Charge of Beating John Ferguson, Farmer, Several Months Ago

FOUR ONEONTA CONVICTS ARE IN JEFFERSON JAIL

Facing New ... ing Charges; Lee Cla... ... City

HARTSE... 17.—(AP)
—Five men ...ered here today
followir ...ent by a Morgan county ... h investigated the fl... rguson several months ago. Tho... ere Dave Whitten, John Patterson, Beuford ... John Livingston. All are ... No report whipping had been made public until the arrests were made today. Several other indictments were said to have been returned and other arrests are expected.

Ferguson, who is a farmer living east of Hartselle was taken from his bed by a party of men, carried to a nearby woods and whipped. He was unable to give a reason for the flogging.

SIX IN JEFFERSON JAIL

BIRMINGHAM, ALA., Sept. 17.—Special to The Advertiser.—Six men, arrested in connection with the recent flogging investigations by the Jefferson county grand jury whose bonds were reduced Saturday, were still in jail Saturday evening. Two others, W... J. Worthington, who su... $30,000 bond, and Louis C. ... ght, attorney, who gave $5,000 bond, had been released.

Julius Lumpkin, whose bond was reduced Saturday from $7,000 to $4,000 on two charges of bribery, made bond late Saturday afternoon and were released. The men who were still in jail Saturday evening were: L. A. Clayton. Eugene Doss, Ira Davis, Ellis Ratliff, Andrew Glaze and Clyde Copeland. Bond of each was set at $5,000.

Faces Perjury Charge

L. D. Elwell, facing two charges of perjury, was still in jail, his total bond being $5,000, according to county w... ens. Elwell has served two days of his five-day sentence for contempt of court. When the charge against him was changed to perjury Saturday after he had been taken before Judge McCoy and questioned by Attorney General McCall concerning his membership in the Tarrant City Rifle club and the Tarrant City klan. Elwell denied membership in the rifle club, but admitted he was a member of the Tarrant City klan.

The men held after the grand jury investigation are accused in connection with the alleged floggings of Arthur Hitt, negro; John Lowell Bolton and Jeff Calloway.

The names of Clayton, Doss, Glaze, Davis. Copeland and Ratliff were brought into the Oneonta trials when Doss and Clayton were found guilty of flogging Jeff Calloway and sentenced to eight to ten years. They appealed and were at liberty under appeal bonds when the Jefferson county grand jury indicted them.

Horace Wilkinson, attorney has been retained by Clayton, Doss and Davis.

Attorney General McCall, his assistant, John J. Haynes and members of the state law enforcement department who have been here during the grand jury probe, returned to Montgomery late Saturday.

The cases against the accused probably will be set for the last of this month or during October, it appeared Saturday. A conference of attorneys who will appear in the cases, chiefly the prosecutors, and the judge who will preside, will be held to determine the exact date.

CALL FOR SPECIAL GRAND JURY TERM URGED BY OFFICIAL

Attorney General Demands Convening of Crenshaw County Inquisitorial Body on October 10

APPEAL MADE TO GOVERNOR FOR IMMEDIATE ACTION

Claims Evidence Sufficient to Secure Indictments of At Least 80 Persons

Declaring that he has sufficient evidence to indict at least eighty persons in Crenshaw county for floggings, Attorney General Charles C. McCall has called upon Judge A. E. Gamble to convene the grand jury in extra session at Luverne on October 10. Not only has Mr. McCall insisted that the judge empanel a special grand jury, but he is calling upon Gov. Graves to add his voice to the call.

"With one exception," said Mr. McCall, "every flogging on which I now have evidence, the crime was committed by men wearing the robes of the Knights of the Ku Klux Klan. Whether or not these floggings were engineered by the order in an official way, I am not prepared to say."

Governor Graves took the matter under consideration and made an appointment with the attorney general for Tuesday morning when he is expected to announce his decision. The conference will be held in the office of the governor.

The reason assigned for the immediate calling of the inquisitors is the fact that many witnesses might be intimidated or run out of the county. Mr. McCall stated that several have already been reported absent from the county. The eighty persons against whom the attorney general says he has sufficient evidence to indict are reputed to be members of the Ku Klux Klan.

Under the court system in such counties as Crenshaw, two grand juries are empaneled each year, each expiring on June 30 and December 31. Therefore, it will be necessary to draw a new panel for this investigation. The regular term of the circuit court for Crenshaw is set for November 10. In the meantime Judge Gamble is holding court at Greenville and will follow that with a term at Hayneville.

Attorney General McCall is urging the judge to permit the sending of another jurist to hear the cases at Greenville and proceed at once to draw and empanel the Crenshaw county grand jury in special session on October 10. Under this plan Solicitor Calvin Poole can either remain with his court at Greenville or leave that work with the deputy solicitor and proceed to Luverne to assist the attorney general.

Mr. McCall states that so far as he is able to learn there has been no punishment meted out in Crenshaw county to floggers. Three men have already been arrested in connection with one case and the men lodged in the Montgomery county jail.

Mr. McCall states that on October 17 he will have to return to Jefferson county and will be busy in other sections of the state until about November 1. Then he will have to take up investigations in another county. He points out the imperative need of convening the Crenshaw county grand jury while "things are hot" and before the principal witnesses can be run out of the jurisdiction of the court.

While stating positively and without the least equivocation that the Crenshaw county floggings were done by men robed in the regular regalia of the klan, Mr. McCall made it plain that he was not condemning the state organization, or accusing that body of having knowledge of the crimes.

Warrants were sworn out in Crenshaw county Monday for the arrest of two men charged with kidnaping. One against Rufus Welch in connection with the kidnaping and death of Annie Mae Simmons, a negress, the other was against "Cue" Bozeman, charged with the kidnaping of Travis Bozeman. Welch is charged with being connected with the same crime for which the three Crenshaw county men were jailed Saturday night. According to information reaching Montgomery late Monday evening no trace of these men could be found by the sheriff, and it is supposed that they have left the county.

The Attorney General and John Haynes one of his assistants will confer with Judge Gamble at Greenville Tuesday afternoon relative to the calling of the special grand jury.

BIRMINGHAM MAN FLOGGED

BIRMINGHAM, ALA., Oct. 3.—Special to The Advertiser.—Flogged Sunday night almost into insensibility, Robert Collins, of Thirteenth avenue and Fourteenth street, north, Monday afternoon reported to police that he had been warned in a telephone message to leave town before night or he would be whipped again. Collins told police at noon Monday that he was taken from his automobile at Avenue F and Twelfth street, south, almost in the heart of Birmingham, late Sunday night by a band of unmasked men, carried over Shades mountain, and flogged until he could hardly move. He said that two men drove up beside the car in which he was riding and commanded him to go to the curb. He stopped, he said, and was forced to leave his car and after being blindfolded, was put in the other car and driven to a lonely spot on the Montgomery highway beyond Shade's mountain, where he said they cut green

Ku Klux Klan - 1927

I.

Alabama

REV. L. A. NALLS ESCAPES PROBE BY GRAND JURY

Two Warrants Charging Minister With Kidnaping and Assault Still Remain Unserved

ANOTHER ARREST MADE ON KIDNAPING CHARGE

Cue Bozeman, Farmer, Held in Connection With Flogging of His Cousin

By HAROLD STEPHENS
Staff Correspondent

LUVERNE, ALA., Oct. 11.—With Rev. L. A. Nalls, reputed Klan cyclops of Georgiana Klan, reported "missing" while two warrants charging him with participating in Crenshaw county floggings remained unserved, and James Esdale, grand dragon of the Ku Klux Klan of Alabama, reported at a national Ku Klux Klan convention in Chicago, Attorney General Charlie C. McCall's promised attempt to connect the Alabama Klan organization with Crenshaw county floggings, is apparently doomed to be a failure.

Mr. McCall, however, does not seem doubtful over the prospects. The Rev. Mr. Nalls, it is said, preached his last sermon in Georgiana Sunday night, shipping his baggage to Aberdeen, Texas the next day, and the Saturday following, left by automobile over the Jackson highway.

Only two of the reported Klan officials subpoenaed to appear Wednesday are expected. They are George H. Thigpen, reported Grand State Titan of the Southern Province and Cecil Davis, former grand titan of the southern province. Louis McAdory, for whom a summons was issued, could not be located. Jeff Beeland, reputed as exalted cyclops of the Greenville Klan, appeared before the grand jury Tuesday for more than an hour.

The warrant against the Rev. Mr. Nalls charging him with kidnaping in one case, that of Huey Peterson, a negro, and with assault with a cowhide whip in another. The latter was issued in the case of Miss Fannie Clements, a white woman.

Earl Potalen, reported Imperial lecturer of the Ku Klux Klan, was held before the grand jury Tuesday. Mr. Potalen stayed in the witness chair approximately an hour. No intimation as to what he testified, or as to what Mr. Beeland testified, was given by Attorney General McCall.

Other witnesses who went before the grand jury were: Trivo Bozeman, Bob and George Harbin, T. Holley, Winfred Morgan, Fannie Clements, Mrs. Viola Clements, Dr. P. B. Spier, Dr. J. A. Kendricks, L. L. Hobson, Irvin Russell, Jeff Beeland, Jack Payne, Jim Bray, Robert McKinnon, Robert Beeland, Jr., Hillary Miller, Lizzie Miller, L. H. Gibson, Mrs. Emma Beasley, Carlie Pollard, Lee Henderson, Gene Gould and R. E. Hunt.

Bozeman Arrested

Cue Bozeman, farmer of the Honoraville community, was arrested on the streets of Luverne Tuesday morning on a warrant charging kidnaping. The arrest, it was learned upon good authority was made in connection with the flogging of Travis Bozeman, a first cousin of the accused, in August, 1926.

Travis Bozeman, who went before the grand jury Monday afternoon to tell of the assault committed upon him, left his home with Cue Bozeman during the day on which the flogging occurred, which was three or four days prior to the general election held August 10th of last year. On his way home that night he was waylaid and severely beaten by a mob of thirteen masked men.

Despite the secrecy which has veiled the activities of the grand jury, it was also definitely learned Tuesday that three white men and one white woman have been flogged in Crenshaw county. They are Ada Lowe, who was flogged about three years ago, Tarvis Bozeman, in August, 1926, Reynolds Ellis in the fall of 1926 and Miss Fannie Clements, who lives about two miles from Luverne on the Luverne-Montgomery highway, appeared at the court house of Crenshaw county Tuesday as a witness for the grand jury. A mob of white men, all of whom except two were masked, are said to have attacked and beaten her in her own home. She was whipped with switches and took turns beating him as he lay upon the ground.

After being beaten almost into insensibility, he told officers, he was put back into the car and brought to the top of Red mountain, where he was told to make his way home or wherever he wished to go the best way he could.

He reported to police headquarters and later to the sheriff's office. Where Chief Deputy T. M. Gilbert said that Deputies Orville Haynes and T. E. McNeal were assigned to investigate.

Late Monday afternoon Collins reported to deputies that he had received a telephone call which warned him to leave town before night or he "would be whipped again."

Sunday night's flogging is another in the long list of whippings that have stirred Alabama and resulted in the sentencing of seven men to prison terms in the Calloway flogging case at Oneonta and the indictment of nine men in Jefferson county in connection with the Hitt and Bolton flogging

it was said, while lying in bed in his night clothes.

Felony Charges

Attorney General Charlie C. McCall is evidently attempting to secure conviction on felony charges in his Crenshaw county house cleaning. The law passed by the recent legislature which makes the misdemeanor of assault and battery a felony when committed while masked, is not retrotracted in its effort but a majority of the warrants which have been sworn out so far allege felony charges, either assault with attempt to murder or kidnaping. It is also pointed out that a misdemeanor charge must be brought within twelve months of the commission of the offense. Otherwise no conviction can be sustained. The floggings and other offenses under investigation, it is known, cover a period of some 3 years. The last one reported was that of a negro, Hamp Kendricks, who was struck over the head with a pistol by one of a group of masked men about two months ago. Attorney General McCall, it is thought, has some chance of obtaining convictions on a kidnaping charge even though the victim was not carried away by his assailants. Code section No. 3189, which defines the offense of kidnaping, makes the seizure of a person with the intent to confine or carry him away, sufficient to sustain a conviction. Its language is, "any person who forcibly or unlawfully confines, inveigles or entices away another, with the intent to cause him to be secretly confined or imprisoned against his will or to be sent out of the state against his will, must, on conviction, be imprisoned in the state penitentiary for not less than two, nor more than ten years.

Investigation Ordered

The grand jury investigation is being conducted in a quiet and orderly manner. Except for the presence of a small group of witnesses awaiting their turn, and a number of state law enforcement officers, there is no physical indication of the importance of the hearing going on behind the closed doors of the court room. About the streets of Luverne, where business is going on in its usual way, the grand jury investigation is the chief topic of conversation. "There's a lot of worried faces here about," is a remark not infrequently heard. The general consensus of opinion in Crenshaw county, according to former Sheriff Pat McQueen, is that the outrages committed by men disguised in mask and robe are things of the past. The citizens of Crenshaw county, as a whole, are a law abiding and peace loving people, he said. They feel keenly the stigma of the charges that have been made against their county and, while admitting the truth of them and heartily wishing to cooperate in stopping them, want the real nature of the county to be known. In Crenshaw county, as in every other county, there is a lawless element, he said. Their depredations have centered about the Honoraville community, lying near the Butler county line, he stated. It is these men, and their activities, he said, that have caused the evil in Crenshaw county. Heretofore, those whom they assaulted, or those who knew of their activities, have been afraid to speak, but now, he said, they have confidence that every precaution will be taken to insure their safety. They feel that Attorney General McCall will stand by them and are willing to tell what they know of the flogging evil in Crenshaw county to the grand jury.

A SUPER-KLAN WITHIN THE KLAN

The Ku Klux Klan has lately been under heavy fire in several States, particularly in Alabama, Indiana and Pennsylvania. Many columns of sensational news have been printed about the activities of the order in these three States and the Klan's connection with one evil or another, and there have been some amazing revelations.

In Alabama, the Klan's sinister connection with flogging outrages has been bared to the world through the work of State and county prosecuting attorneys, grand juries and the courts.

In Indiana, the Klan is revealed as the cesspool of political corruption, and its evil trail has been traced alike to penitentiary and to Governor's mansion.

But as sensational as are these revelations in Alabama and Indiana, they are not more interesting than charges that have just been made against the Klan in Pennsylvania.

In Pennsylvania, be it explained, there has been strife within the Klan ranks, and efforts are being made by former Klansmen through injunction proceedings in the Federal court, to restrain the order from operating in that State. It is in this connection that it has been charged, in the Federal court at Pittsburgh, that a "super secret" organization known as the Black Robe Society exists within the Klan.

According to an Associated Press dispatch from Pittsburgh, five former members of the Klan have charged, in affidavits filed in Federal court in support of their injunction case, that the Black Robe Society maintained within the order punished Klansmen who failed to obev orders.

The five former Klansmen not only are seeking an injunction to restrain the Klan from operating in Pennsylvania, but also are asking for appointment of a receiver for the property and funds of the organization. The Klan previously had entered suit against the five in an effort to prevent them from interfering with the order. the bill describing them as banished members.

The affidavits set forth charges of astounding activities. In addition to the allegation of the existence of the "super secret" Black Robe Society within the order, it is charged that the Knights of the Ku Klux Klan were responcible for riots, attempted lynchings and kidnapings in Pennsylvania.

According to a special dispatch from Pittsburgh to The New York World, Barclay alleges that the Klan was responsible for a riot at Carnegia, Pa., on August 25, 1923, in which a Klansman was killed and many others wounded; for the attempted lynching of a negro at Beaver, Pa., in 1923; for the kidnaping of a four-year-old child in East Liberty on July 4, 1923; for the attempt to lynch a negro barber in Oakdale about July 12, 1923, and for riots at Scottdale, Lilly and McKees Rocks. He said he had been directed by Rich to carry out the attempted lynching of the Knights of the Ku Klux Klan, but was recently "banished" without a trial. He said, adding that before the Carnegie riot, he swore that the State was Sam Dragon of the Klan.

One of the affiants, Dayton W. Laudash, a Philadelphia jeweler, told of the flogging and tarring and feathering of members of the Klan by the "Black Robe gang," and of his being often threatened and ordered to "leave town" within forty eight hours.

Roy A. Barclay of Pittsburgh, a private detective, said in his affidavit that he was a kleagle of the Klan with a commission issued from Atlanta, and later an investigator for the State of Pennsylvania. He was known as "G-2," he said, adding that his only superior in the State was Sam Dragon Rich, who was "G-1," and acted as grand

Harry E. A. MacNeel, former exalted cyclops of Kittanning Klan provisional and Imperial Wizard Hiram Wesley Evans

Imperial Wizard Hiram Wesley Evans

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doomed to be a failure.

Mr. McCall, however, does not seem doubtful over the prospects. The Rev. Mr. Nalls, it is said, preached his last Sunday night to Aberdeen, Georgiana and the Saturday night congregation in Crenshaw county to the grand jury.

Only two of the reported Klan officials subpoenaed to appear Wednesday, are expected. They are George Tarvin, reported Grand Titan of the Southern Province and Cecil Davis, former grand titan of the re-southern province. Louis McAdory, former Imperial Kligrapp, whom a summons was issued, could not be located. Jeff Beeland, reputed exalted cyclops of the Greenville klan, appeared before the grand jury for more than an hour.

The warrant against the Rev. Mr. Nalls charging him with kidnaping in connection with flogging outrages has been based on the testimony of seven men, it is said. Earl Potalen, former Imperial secretary of the Ku Klux Klan, was held before the grand jury Tuesday. Potalen stayed in the witness chair approximately an hour. No intimation as to what he testified or what Mr. Beeland testified was given by Attorney General McCall.

Other witnesses who went before the grand jury were: [illegible] Bozeman, Bob and George Harbin, T. Holley, Winfred Morgan, Fannie Clements, Mrs. Viola Clements, Dr. P. B. Spier, Dr. J. A. Kendricks, L. L. Hobson, Irvin Russell, Jeff Beeland, Jack Payne, Jim Bray, Robert Beeland, Robert McKinnon, Lizzie Miller, L. H. Gibson, Mrs. Emma Beasley, Carlie Pollard, Lee Henderson, Gene Gould and R. E. Hunt.

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Travis Bozeman, who went before the grand jury Monday afternoon to tell of the assault committed upon him, left his home with Cue Bozeman during the day on which the flogging occurred, which was three or four days prior to the general election held August 10th of last year. On his way home that night he was waylaid and severely beaten by a mob of thirteen masked men. Despite the secrecy which has veiled loving the activities of the grand jury, it ly the stigma of the charges that been made against their county while admitting the truth of them heartily wishing to cooperate in s ping them, want the real nature of acted in its efforts to be known. In Crens fort but a majority of the have been sworn out so far al either assault have been printed about the activities of or kidnaping the order in these three States and the brought with Klan's connection with one evil or anoth commission of er, and there have been some amazing no conviction can be sustained. The other offenses under investi makes the misdemeanor of a battery a felony when comm committed while larly in Alabama, Indiana and Pennsyl of the warrants vania. Many columns of sensational news

REV. L. A. NALLS ESCAPES PROBE BY GRAND JURY

Two Warrants Charging Minister With Kidnaping and Assault Still Remain Unserved

ANOTHER ARREST MADE ON KIDNAPING CHARGE

Cue Bozeman, Farmer, Held in Connection With Flogging of His Cousin

By HAROLD STEPHENS
Staff Correspondent

LUVERNE, ALA., Oct. 11.—With Rev. L. A. Nalls, reputed Klan cyclops of Georgiana Klan, reported "missing" while two warrants charging him with participating in Crenshaw county flogging remained unserved, and James Esdale, grand dragon of the Ku Klux Klan of Alabama, reported at national Ku Klux Klan convention in Chicago, Attorney General Charlie C. McCall's promised attempt to connect the Alabama Klan organization with Crenshaw county floggings, is apparently

Mr. McCall what they are willing to tell in Crenshaw county to the grand jury.

Felony Charges

Attorney General Charlie C. McCall is evidently attempting to secure conviction on felony charges in his Crenshaw county house cleaning. The law passed by the recent legislature which makes the misdemeanor of assault and battery a felony when committed while masked, is not retroactive in its effect so far as either assault have been printed about the activities of that a misdemeanor or kidnaping charge must be brought within twelve months of the commission of the offense. Otherwise no conviction can be sustained. The floggings and revelations.

A SUPER-KLAN WITHIN THE KLAN

The Ku Klux Klan has lately been underground by the reported Klan officials that they are expected. They are George Tarvin, reported Grand Titan of the Southern Province and Cecil Davis, former grand titan of the re-southern province. Louis McAdory, former Imperial Kligrapp, whom a summons was issued, could not be located. Jeff Beeland, reputed exalted cyclops of the Greenville klan, appeared before the grand jury for more than an hour.

The warrant against the Rev. Mr. Nalls charging him with kidnaping in connection with flogging outrages has been based on the testimony of seven men, it is said. Earl Potalen, former Imperial secretary of the Ku Klux Klan, was held before the grand jury Tuesday. Potalen stayed in the witness chair approximately an hour. No intimation as to what he testified or what Mr. Beeland testified was given by Attorney General McCall.

Other witnesses who went before the grand jury were: [illegible] Bozeman, Bob and George Harbin, T. Holley, Winfred Morgan, Fannie Clements, Mrs. Viola Clements, Dr. P. B. Spier, Dr. J. A. Kendricks, L. L. Hobson, Irvin Russell, Jeff Beeland, Jack Payne, Jim Bray, Robert Beeland, Robert McKinnon, Lizzie Miller, L. H. Gibson, Mrs. Emma Beasley, Carlie Pollard, Lee Henderson, Gene Gould and R. E. Hunt.

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Travis Bozeman, who went before the grand jury Monday afternoon to tell of the assault committed upon him, left his home with Cue Bozeman during the day on which the flogging occurred, which was three or four days prior to the general election held August 10th of last year. On his way home that night he was waylaid and severely beaten by a mob of thirteen masked men. Despite the secrecy which has veiled the activities of the grand jury, it has been learned upon good authority that three white men and one white man have been flogged by the mob. They are Lowe, Crenshaw county. They are reported to have been stopped by the mob while in their automobile over the Crenshaw county line, and later taken to the home of Lowe, where they were severely beaten by the mob. Only two of the reported Klan officials subpoenaed to appear Wednesday, are expected. They are George Tarvin, reported Grand Titan of the Southern Province and Cecil Davis, former grand titan of the re-southern province. Louis McAdory, former Imperial Kligrapp, whom a summons was issued, could not be located. Jeff Beeland, reputed exalted cyclops of the Greenville klan, appeared before the grand jury for more than an hour.

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made a fiery speech and that he saw dead and wounded carried from the "battle-field."

In all, nineteen affidavits were filed by the five defendants in the suit brought by the Klan and by others. The Klan first brought suit against the Rev. John P. Strayer of Latrobe, and the four other complainants to have them restrained from interfering with the affairs of the order, and the latter brought counter-suit seeking to have the Pennsylvania Klan dissolved.

All the charges raised in these affidavits are very interesting, and, if they are true, reveal conditions from which decent people everywhere in America will recoil in horror, ashamed that such dastardly outrages can be committed in the land which they love, the country which was founded on the principles of liberty and tolerance and where the rights of all are supposed to be protected alike.

But there is one charge that stands out above the others in interest, in one respect inasmuch as it throws a new light on the Klan, if it is true. It is nothing new for such things as flogging, tarring and feathering, kidnaping, inciting riots and attempts at lynching to be connected with the Klan. But we do not recall ever before having heard any intimation of the existence within the Klan of a "super secret" organization for the punishment of disobedient Klansmen.

If we may take the word of one of the affiants in the Pennsylvania case, it is the custom in the Klan, when a member neglects to do the order's bidding, to lay hold of him and flog him, and perhaps tar and feather him. We may imagine, if this is true, how the plan works. A group of Klansmen is delegated to go forth and carry out a certain order of the Klan, say, for example, to flog an old man, or a young woman, or perhaps an old woman; a member of the delegation refuses to do the Klan's bidding; he is seized and gets a flogging himself. At any rate, that is what we are led to understand by these affidavits.

If this "super secret" Black Robe Society exists within the Klan for the purpose alleged by these affidavits, it may contain a solution to the problem of the Klan menace. We are optimistic enough to believe the plan which we propose will work. It is this: Let all decent members of the Klan get out of the order, as they would naturally want to do if it is established that these charges are true. Then only the floggers and the like would remain. The Klan, as then constituted, would be a weak and cowardly organization and, having only small force in numbers, would be afraid to lay hands on decent people. The remaining Klansmen could then satisfy their sadistic impulses, thanks to the Black Secret Society, by flogging each other.

MORE ABOUT ALABAMA'S SHAME

Judge O. A. Steele, whose name has become a household word in Alabama in consequence of his services to civilization rendered in the Blount county flogging trials at Oneonta, went into action again the other day. Addressing a charge to the Etowah county grand jury at Gadsden, he again called attention to the unprecedented number of floggings in many parts of the State, and in the course of his remarks made this arresting statement:

> A prominent citizen of Talladega county said to me in Gadsden the other day that there had been 47 floggings and one murder over in Talladega county and nobody had been indicted for it. In the name of the people of Alabama, and particularly of Etowah county, I call upon you to rise in your manhood and put the stamp of your disapproval, and the disapproval of the manhood and womanhood of this state upon that kind of conduct. If it is not stopped, no telling who will be next. If it is not stopped, we are going to live in a reign of terror. It is near that now.

Forty-seven floggings and one murder in Talladega county—without a single indictment! We dare to call attention to this slight transgression of the laws of this State, even though to do so is to invite the retort of many a smirky old hypocrite in Alabama that our motives are none too good.

Judge Steele concluded his charge by an eloquent appeal to the manhood of the grand jurors. He said: "There are men in this county that you cannot terrorize. There are men in this county that you cannot intimidate. There are men in this county that you cannot frighten; and I believe I am looking into the faces of 18 men this morning who are not afraid—not afraid of their duty—not afraid to condemn crime wherever they find it, and in the name of the people of this county, and of the State, I call upon you, gentlemen of the grand jury, to stand up like men and do your duty, in face of every opposition, and in the face of every effort to intimidate you or make you afraid. If you are that kind of man you are in the proper place. If you are not that kind of man you are not a fit person to serve your county and your fellowman."

COLLINS FLOGGED SECOND TIME; SEEK MYSTERY WOMAN

Unmasked Mob Again Thrash Man and Tell Him 'There Will Be No Fooling About the Third Time'

BIRMINGHAM, ALA., Oct. 6.—Special to The Advertiser.—Searching for "a large heavy set woman, with dark, bobbed hair," city and county officers believed Friday that her arrest would lead to solution of the mystery surrounding the second flogging of Robert Collins.

Collins was flogged first Sunday night, when he was kidnaped from the downtown district and taken to Shades mountain and beaten with green switches. Following the flogging he was warned by telephone to "leave town," or bear the consequences. Tuesday night he was flogged a second time and warned that there would be no "fooling" about the third occasion should the need arise.

The woman sought is the driver of the car from which Collins was accosted as he walked on Sixteenth street near Tenth avenue north shortly before midnight Tuesday.

Collins told police he was walking home, when a car driven by a woman, with a man standing on the running board, drove to the curb opposite him.

Fearing a second attack, Collins said, he ran, but the man jumped from the running board and overtook him, striking him over the head with a heavy weapon.

Half unconscious, they loaded him in the car, he said, and carried him over the mountain, where he was forced to "hug a tree" while the mob whipped him with green switches cut from the surrounding bushes. His back was a welter of cuts and bruises when he reported to officers.

Collins spent Wednesday night in the county jail, after having reported the second whipping to the police late Wednesday afternoon. He lived in fear until he decided to report to police. He is being guarded by county officers during the investigation.

He told police he believed there were at least four men and a woman in the party which kidnaped him.

Deputy Sheriffs T. E. McNeel and Orville Haynes were detailed to investigate the case and city officers also are engaged. Officers believed the lashing to be the work of bootleggers, as Collins had told them the floggers accused him of being a government prohibition informer.

10 ALABAMANS HELD IN FLOGGING CASES

Birmingham, Ala., September 17.—(AP)—With the number of arrests or flogging indictments, returned by the Jefferson county grand jury, brought to ten by the jailing late last night of Lee Clayton on a charge of kidnaping, more arrests are expected and more than a dozen others in connection with masked whippings are due, according to officials.

Clayton was confined in the Jefferson county jail and bond set at $20,000. This had not been met early today. Others under arrest and their charges are: Andy Glaze, kidnaping; Clyde Copeland, kidnaping; Ellis Ratliffe, kidnaping; Ira Davis, kidnaping; Eugene Doss, kidnaping; Louis C. Albright, kidnaping; W. D. Worthington, kidnaping and bribery; Julius Lumpkin, two counts of perjury, and C. J. Seale, kidnaping.

Trials for the men will be set for an early date, according to Attorney General Charlie C. McCall, who left presentation of the evidence to the grand jury.

Worthington and Albright made bond, while habeas corpus proceedings to reduce the amount of Lumpkin's bond was continued by Judge Roger Snyder at the request of Assistant Attorney General John J. Haynes until 10 a. m. Saturday.

L. D. Elwell, who was sentenced to five days in jail and a $50 fine by Judge John P. McCoy, for evasion of questions before the grand jury Thursday afternoon, was questioned at length on two occasions Friday. Elwell is thought to know considerable concerning general flogging activities. He admitted being a member of the klan when he appeared before Judge McCoy Thursday.

Glaze, Ratliffe, Copeland, Davis and Doss were in the county jail in default of $10,000 bond each. Seale's bond was set at $25,000, that of Lumpkin at $7,000, and Worthington obtained his freedom under $30,000 bond. Albright, after habeas corpus proceedings before Judge Roger Snyder, had his bond cut to $5,000 which he later made.

Doss is under $5,000 bond at the present time, following his conviction in the Jeff Calloway flogging at Oneonta, Blount county, early in August. He was sentenced from 8 to 10 years in the penitentiary on a kidnaping charge. He has appealed the sentence.

ALLEGED FLOGGER TO GIVE SELF UP

J. O. Sizemore Recently Indicted By Grand Jury Investigating Jefferson Outrages

BIRMINGHAM, ALA., Sept. 21—(AP)—J. O. Sizemore, the twelfth man indicated by a special grand jury which recently investigated floggings in Jefferson county, was to give himself up to county officers today, Sheriff Hartsfield said. Bond for Sizeman has been set at $20,000 on the charges of kidnapping.

Sizemore, who was indicted in connection with the whipping of John Bolton several weeks ago, has been in Mississippi for several days and word of his indictment was not made public until given out by the sheriff today.

Eleven other men are at liberty on bonds pending trial on charges of kidnapping in connection with the whipping of Bolton, Arthur Hitt, a negro, Dan Mitchell and Eston Murchison.

No trial date has yet been set.

MOTHER, SON, KLAN VICTIMS

Refuse To Surrender Farm To Terrorists. Disappear Mysteriously As Officers Are Sent

MONTGOMERY, Ala., Nov. 9.—(Special) In the midst of the agitation against the Ku Klux Klan and the baring of the brutality of some of its members news comes that a gang of Klansmen gave notice to Abe Jackson, prosperous Race farmer and his mother to leave Colbert County before November 1. But the son and his aged mother bravely refused to leave their little homestead and the farm they acquired through years of toil resulting in foul-play befalling them.

The gangster terrorized the aged mother to force her to sell her land, which represented her life's savings. Jackson goaded by threats and fearing for the safety of his mother finally wired Attorney General McCall telling him the state of affairs.

McCall immediately ordered protection sent for the pair, but when officers arrived, they could not be found. All efforts to locate Jackson and his mother have been in vain.

The brutal acts attributed to the Klan are gradually turning all of the best whites in the South against it.

Alabama.

Ku Klux Klan-1927

WELCH ARRESTED AS CRENSHAW JURY MEETS IN LUVERNE

Charged With Aiding in Whipping of Negro Woman Who Died a Few Months Later; In Montgomery Jail

MINISTER IS SUMMONED FOR QUIZ WEDNESDAY

The Rev. Mr. Nalls, Reputed Klan Head, and Greenville Man To Face Jury

By HAROLD STEPHENS
Staff Correspondent

LUVERNE, ALA., Oct. 10.—Simultaneously with the beginning of the long grind behind closed doors at which Attorney General Charlie C. McCall, in a special session of the Crenshaw county grand jury, hopes to unravel the mystery hanging over the series of floggings and other outrages in this county, Rufus Welch, Crenshaw county farmer, was apprehended on the streets of Luverne early Monday afternoon under a warrant charging first degree murder in connection with an alleged flogging.

He is charged with having been one of a group of five men, who in July, 1926, administered a severe beating to a negro woman, Annie May Simmons, as a result of which, it is averred, she died the following November. None of the men taking part in the affair, which was perpetrated in the day time, wore masks.

J. T. Williamson, a barber, living in Greenville, was arrested Sunday night, Attorney General McCall announced Monday. He was taken to the Montgomery county jail where he is now held in default of $30,000 bond. He is said to be connected with three flogging cases in Crenshaw.

Others Arrested.

Others previously arrested on charges growing out of the Crenshaw county whippings, and who are also prisoners in the county jail here are: Jim Holliday, John Langford, Willie Shepherd Stallings, Max Miller, Thaxton Miller and Shelby Gregory. Elmer Hill and Dewey Bowling, committed to the Montgomery county jail in the same connection, made bond Sunday in the sums of $30,000 and $10,000, respectively.

The opening of the special term of the grand jury in Crenshaw county drew a large crowd to Luverne Monday. At an early hour there was a growing fringe of automobiles about the court house. Numerous groups of men congregated about the streets discussing the great event of the day.

Added interest is attached to the meeting of the grand jury at Luverne since two other reputed officials of the Ku Klux Klan have been subpoenaed to come before the grand jury. They are the Rev. Mr. Nalls, reputed official of the Luverne klan, and Jeff Beeland, reputed Klan official of Greenville.

Court convened at 11 o'clock, having been delayed an hour to give Attorney General McCall, Assistant Attory General John Haynes, Solicitor Calvin Poole and Attorney Frank Bricken, of Luverne, ample time for conference, but got under way quickly after it convened.

The Rev. O. P. Bentley, pastor of the Luverne Baptist church delivered a brief invocation after Judge A. E. Gamble had organized the grand jury. The selection of the grand jury of 18 members from a venire of 61 names was begun immediately and completed within a few minutes.

Grand Jury Members

Members of the grand jury are: Walter L. Petrey, foreman; Ray Holliday, Lois Petrey, O. R. Owens, J. Davis, W. G. Summerland, G. B. Martin, R. B. Clayton, Claude M. Lawson, H. L. Cornett, H. E. Owens, F. G. Moses, Wilbur Jones, J. A. Fuller, A. C. Beck, J. C. Bowens, J. K. Harrison and Marvin Giddens.

With the exception of four members of the grand jury, all of its members are farmers. The four include three merchants and a Ford dealer.

Judge Gamble began his charge to the grand jury after the grand jury was selected, in a low, calm voice, that could be heard in every corner of the crowded court room. He told the grand jury it was their duty to inquire into the truth of the matter which Attorney General McCall and the others would lay before them.

The flogging evil in Crenshaw county, he characterized as a cancer eating into the firm flesh of the well-being of Crenshaw county, and advised the grand jurors to use the knife.

Judge's Charge.

Judge Gamble's charge follows:

"This is an extraordinary session of the court called in order that the grand jury of this county may investigate and determine whether or not certain offenses that have been committed in this county are true. It presents to you, gentlemen, as grand jurymen of Crenshaw county and as citizens of Crenshaw county, probably the most serious opportunity that you have ever had to render a duty to your county as one of its citizens.

"As a matter of fact the county of Crenshaw stands before the world indicted as being probably one of the most lawless counties in the state, as being a county whose citizenship does not enjoy the satisfaction of their rights of life of liberty and happiness.

"Whether that is true, whether that indictment is true is a question that you, gentlemen, as the grand jurymen of this county, must determine. If it is true, it is time for you to begin to house keep. If it isn't true the world ought to know it and Crenshaw ought to stand in its true and proper place in the light of truth, whatever the truth might be.

"We live in a county and under the government of Alabama and all protection of security that you, as citizens of this state and this county, enjoy, is derived from the operations of its law. Those laws are passed and enacted by the legislative department from time to time for the purpose of carrying at the time, the constitution to every citizen of this state. Whether those rights and privileges, whether that security is enjoyed by the citizens of the county depends upon the administration of the law in that county.

"And this is certain and this is true, you, as citizens of Crenshaw county cannot enjoy any greater protection, any greater security than does the humblest citizen of your county. Because, every citizen, no matter what his station may be, gets his security from the same source from this constitution and from the guaranties from the administration of the law of the land. No citizen has the right to look for security, for safety, for the enjoyment of his life, liberty of his person, the protection of his property to any other source than the power and authority in the law, properly administered by its officers. The most important office under our system of law is the juror.

Necessary For Juror To Act.

"Get that thought. The most important officer in the administration of the law is the juror. Because it is necessary for the juror to act and to act with judgment, fearlessly and impartially before any man's rights can be established, so that you come to the performance of your duty as jurors with this serious responsibility placed upon your shoulders.

"After you have acted, then that responsibility passes to other officers, the sheriff, the bailiff, the petit jurors but first you must act as grand jurors.

"Now it has been brought to my attention—and to the attention of everybody so far as that goes—that in Crenshaw county the people have been taken from their homes and flogged, beaten, without any control, without any opportunity to defend themselves taken by a body of men sometimes in the night and carried from their homes, overpowered and beaten. Whether that is true in Crenshaw county is a question that you gentlemen must determine.

"The manner in which you determine that question depends on how you approach your duty as a grand jury. It is not a time for weak men to deal with. The situation calls for the exercise of the highest qualities of citizenship. Your county boasts that the law abiding people of the county and the law abiding people of the state of Alabama are looking for you to determine a power and supremacy of law and order.

No Excuse For Mobs.

"There can be no excuse for the exercising of mob law, or the exercising of power of many over few or one. There can be no excuse in morals of law for any body of men to take any citizen, no matter who that citizen is, whether he be black or white, whether he be poor or rich, whether he be of high estate or low. There is no excuse for any power of that sort. There cannot be two authorities in the same jurisdiction at the same time. That is an impossibility. It is just as impossible to have two authorities to exercise their powers and jurisdiction in the county at the same time as it is for two gods to rule in Heaven at the same time.

"So that you have your law and the administration of that law through your constituted officers, your grand jury, your petit jury, your sheriff, your bailiff and court.

"There is one authority. Then on the other hand you have a body of men responsible to nobody except their own power, physical power crushing the weak without excuse and without reason. Those two authorities are absolutely inconsistent and they both cannot exist at the same time in this county.

"We cannot have a court and have that court function and secure to you the protection of the law and at the same time have another authority, no matter what it be, exercise authority that tears down your rights and liberties. It makes no difference what the person flogged may be guilty of. Power to inflict punishment rests only in your courts unless a system of anarchy is to prevail in your country.

No Limitations

"Unless you as a citizen are willing to surrender every form of right, every vestige of security that you enjoy to have the law. As a matter of reason and common sense, if a body of men, not constituted authorities under the law, if they have the right or authority or if they are permitted to exercise power to determine the guilt or innocence of any citizens, no matter who he is and inflict punishment for his fancied offenses then they have this same right to determine what you as men are not living the correct life and should be punished. There is no limitations upon the authority and power of a mob. No restraint upon their actions.

"You come into this court room charged with an offense. There is a limitation upon the power of this court as to your guilt and states what control and directing trial of your case with a requirement on the part of the state to show by testimony given in open court face to face with who makes the charge and will show beyond all reasonable doubt that you are guilty. There is a limitation that may be involved upon you and the citizenship of this county places that limitation and see that no cruel or unusual punishment may be inflicted.

Have Condemned Lash

"There isn't a state in the Union, gentlemen of the grand jury, that doesn't regard the lash as a cruel and unusual punishment, as a punishment that should not be inflicted by a Christian and not a state in all this Union that hasn't placed this in record as saying to the whole world they believe in the punishment of the guilty by law but we have passed the state of barbarism and we have condemned the lash, so there could not be an excuse for the infliction of punishment by anybody of that sort.

"You look over your county. Of course, I have my personal idea and opinion of Crenshaw county. I know so many men in this county. I know the character and standing of the men in this county. I have passed in and out before you all these years and I have learned to know you and appreciate your worth. I know that Crenshaw as a whole is not a lawless county. I know that the citizenship of Crenshaw has just as high ideals as any county in the state but you know a few men can destroy the reputation of any community. Frequently I have seen that demonstrated. I know in my county, some 25 years ago, there was one beat that was regarded as the most lawless community in South Alabama. I happened to be the prosecuting officer in my county at the time and that beat furnished most of the labor for the criminal court at each session for a good many years. I knew every man in the beat and they came to me with their troubles. There were some good men in the beat, splendid men.

Came to Him For Help

"They came to me on one occasion and wanted me to help them. They wanted to relieve their beat of that stigma. I told them the trouble was not with their beat but with a few men and a few boys who lived in that beat. I told them that when they were arrested on some charge, you gentlemen come up here and make their bond and engage in their defense and the result is they are never allowed to pay the penalty for their offense."

"I said if you will let me put them in jail and punish them as they should be punished, you will find that your precinct will not suffer from that any more. The very next time they were put in jail, no one made their bond and they were sent up for hard labor and that beat was one of the most pleasant in that county. You go there now and where there was a ramshackled school building, you will find three new ones, all full of children. Where you saw a church that was absolutely run down for want of occupancy you find a half dozen where people regularly attend church because the citizens of that beat asserted themselves as citizens and came to the rescue of the law of the land.

"Now that can be true of other counties just as it is true of that beat. That can be true of Crenshaw county just as it was true of that one precinct. A few lawless men, if they are

permitted to continue in their lawlessness will destroy the happiness and security of our homes. Just as one rotten spot in a tree, if permitted to continue, it will destroy the whole vitality of that tree and instead of being shade that cools and refreshes the traveler, instead of a spot of beauty that delights the eye, it becomes a naked stump, an eye-sore and a danger. That is true of a body just as it s of nature.

"If a cancer begins to eat, it is necessary to use the knife to take the poison out, and, if lawlessness begins to operate and it will destroy the good name of Crenshaw county. It is time for a grand jury to use the knife and not a hood and not a mask. It is time for the grand jury composed of fearless, honest, patriotic citizens to come to the courthouse and to perform their constitutional and legal duty among men, not in the night time and not under cover but out in the open where brave men delight.

"And so when I look at you, gentlemen, I feel like you will do what is right. You cannot temporize with the situation. If these charges are true, let's housekeep. Let's say to the world that the constitution of the great state of Alabama means something to the people who live in Crenshaw county. Let's say to the world that life may proceed along pleasant paths if you live in this county. Let's say to the world, let a man enjoy his property in peace and quiet and that his family may rest in security and free from molestation of any one. I do not know whether you gentlemen belong to the Ku Klux Klan or not. It is immaterial. I do not know anything about the Ku Klux Klan.

"I do not belong to it myself. I have heard members of the klan make the statement that these outrages, these floggings, the kidnapings, were not permitted with the sanction of the klan. I hope that is true. If it is true, it is the duty of that klan and every man who belongs to that klan to hold up the arms of these officers and to aid them in every way they can to expose these outrages and to reveal the truth. Any honest man, being a good citizen would not want to belong to any order that would sanction conduct of that sort. So it is the duty of every man, no matter what his affiliation may be to assist you gentlemen in arriving at the truth because that is what you are engaged in.

"A serious and conscientious and fearless search for the truth and when that truth reveals itself you ought to deal with every man alike. If it shows innocence, so much the better. If it shows him guilty, he ought to be punished. You will have with you, gentlemen of the grand jury, Mr. Pool, your regular solicitor. It is his duty to aid you, direct you in the performance of your duty as a grand jury man. He has with him Charlie McCall. Mr. McCall is here for the purpose of aiding and assisting Mr. Pool. He is here for the purpose of aiding and advising you in the administration of the issues that are presented so it will not be necessary for me to define any of the crimes in a legal way that may come to your attention.

"You also have Mr. Haynes, who is assistant attorney general, who will aid and assist you in your work. So you are provided with the best legal talent that the state is able to give. You are provided with a sheriff who is diligent in the performance of his duty, to serve your process, execute any process that you wish. You have the power and authority to compel the attendance of the witnesses, for them to answer all proper questions, for them to produce any document or record that may be provided with in any inquiry that may come before you. In other words, you have the power of the state of Alabama at your disposal. Now use that power, use it fearlessly and honestly. It doesn't make any difference who is indicted, you are not indicting them, you are simply functioning as a part of the machinery of the Alabama court, state of Alabama.

"And if they have committed a misdemeanor or crime, they have none to blame but themselves and not a grand juror. No one who has disobeyed the law has a right to presume or call upon the citizens to foreswear. They have no right to ask nor feel that you as grandjurymen should think they are entitled to the protection of the court. No man has a right to importune you, or to try to influence you in the discharge of your duty as a grand juror. If he does, all you have to do is to notify the court and you will be protected. You are protected in every way and not only that, you have the opportunity to render a world of service to your county.

"In the conducting of your investigation if one of the grand jurors is interested in the case that is being investigated it is the duty of that member to notify the grand jury in regard to it. It is the duty of the grand jury to vote upon the testimony that is brought before them and if 12 or more of your number vote for a true bill, it becomes a true bill. Unless 12 vote for it, it doesn't become a true bill. During the time you are voting, you must vote alone. No one must be in the grand jury room except the members of the grand jury, the assistant bailiff, and the sheriff. Every one must retire from the grand jury room. This is the time that you exercise your judgment, your patriotism and your will power. Do what is right. Do it fearlessly and impartially and let your report show that truth is in Crenshaw county. If you do that, then you will have rendered to your county and to your state the greatest service that a juror has ever been called upon to render in this county and I feel like you gentlemen will do that."

The grand jury recessed shortly after the noon hour, for dinner, convening again at 1:30 o'clock to begin the examination of witnesses. Ira B. Thompson, a Luverne attorney, and reputed exalted cyclops of the Luverne Klan, was the first witness called. He remained on the witness stand for approximately an hour and a half. Travis Bozeman, to whom a flogging was administered some months ago, was the next witness called. The other witnesses called during the afternoon were: Dr. S. E. Jordan, J. L. Daniel, Miss Ella Bozeman, W. T. Hollis, T. V. Mitchell, Robert Gill, T. L. Rhodes Mrs. Sallie Gill, Worthy Daniel and W. M. Beasley.

Attorney General McCall, after the grand jury recessed for the night, at 5:30 o'clock p. m., did not seem satisfied with the amount of progress made during the afternoon. He seemed eager to continue the presentation of cases to the grand jury and vexed that he must stop for the night.

As to the evidence introduced before the grand jury Monday afternoon, he would say nothing, implying that no announcements of indictments would be made until after the grand jury had completed its investigations.

Wednesday, on which day James Esdale, grand dragon of the Ku Klux Klan of Alabama; Cecil Davis, reputed former grand titan of the southern province of Alabama; George H. Thigpen, state superintendent of insurance, and reputed grand titan of the southern province; Louis McAdory, of Birmingham, who is reputed to be intimately connected with the inside workings of the klan; the Reverend Mr. Nalls and Jeff Beeland, are summoned to appear before the grand jury.

At the present time, however, the grand jury is going placidly on with its work, there being little to indicate the importance of the session in the closed court room, except the crowd of witnesses waiting outside the door.

Whether Attorney General McCall will attempt to link the coordinated klan organizations of the state with the outrages in Crenshaw county is a moot question suggested by the subpoenaeing of those reputed to sit in high places in the klan organization.

The grand jury, it is generally thought, will sit through Thursday. Whether it will run through the week is yet a matter of conjecture.

MARENGO JURY TO PROBE FLOGGINGS

Death of Negro at Hands of Unmasked Men Investigated by State and County

By STAFF CORRESPONDENT

LINDEN, ALA., Oct. 31.—The grand jury of Marengo county was today impanelled and heard a charge by Judge B. F. Elmore of the 17th judicial circuit, before going into the state's evidence in the brutal flogging of L. Greathouse, negro, who died later of his injuries.

Three men, Reese Phillips, J. T. Phillips and Chris Ray are being held in the Marengo jail without bond awaiting the action of the grand jury in this case.

Among some 20 prisoners in the jail awaiting trial or indictment are ten charged with murder, one with arson, and several charged with various felonies. There are five or six cases of flogging which will be called to the attention of the grand jury.

In only one of the flogging cases, it is said, was there participation by masked men. Greathouse, it is said, was flogged by unmasked men.

One Woman Victim

One woman will be among the victims of floggings to be called to testify before the grand jury.

The flogging of Greathouse is alleged to have been committed in a spirit of revenge over a trifling matter, namely, the alleged removal by the negro from an old automobile belonging to Chris Ray of a small piece of wire with which to repair a battery connection on an old car which Greathouse owned. The negro did not know until after he had told the boss about borrowing the piece of wire, it is stated, that the old car from which it was taken, had been sold by his boss to Chris Ray.

Judge Elmore's Charge

In part, in his charge to the Marengo grand jury, Judge Elmore said:

"There has been published in the newspapers much about Ku Klux Klan floggings, and as far as I know that is as far as has been brought to my attention.

"There is only one case of flogging that has been done in Marengo county under the mask and robe and that was possibly 12 or 15 months ago. There may be other cases, but I do not know of them, nor have they been brought to my attention. As far as the Ku Klux Klan is concerned as for their published principles, they stand for just what you and I stand for. They stand for the constitution of the United States, and the constitution of Alabama, and every other state; they stand for white supremacy, they stand for chastity of women; they stand for the public school and for education, and these are some of the things, the high points, for which they stand, and I have not yet seen where anyone said they stand for anything unlawful or any unlawful thing. There are cases where I have seen where they stand for taking the law in their own hands, but in some cases others have been doing that, and it is your duty, if you find any unlawful whippings or floggings in this county, it is your duty to find a true bill if the evidence before you justifies it.

"There has also been a good deal said about floggings in your county, you should investigate these matters carefully and examine the witnesses called before you and if the evidence justifies, you should find the true bill against the perpetrator.

"It seems from all reports that some citizens of Marengo county, not the Ku Klux Klan, except that one time, have undertaken to administer the law; now if your court is not capable of trying guilty parties, to give them a fair and impartial trial, it is for the citizens of the county to set the officials aside and get someone who will give fair and impartial trials. Now the courts are established to administer justice and to try fairly and impartially all offenders.

"On the other hand, if these are merely rumors and unfounded rumors, it is your duty not to return a true bill.

"Your duties are ex parte; that is you only hear one side of the evidence. It is not your duty to investigate both sides because if you were to investigate both sides it would consume 12 months of your time. If after hearing the evidence before you and if you find the parties guilty you should find these true bills and the defendants given a trial in the courts and be convicted if guilty and discharged if not guilty."

Attorney Gene... ports; One ... As La... ...d ...;

REGALIA ...JX KLAN WORN A... ...CH LASHING

Threats of Violence and Intimidation Accounts Continue to Pour Into Office

Reports of five more floggings that have taken place in as many Alabama counties, were filed with Attorney General Charlie C. McCall yesterday. The counties where the outrages occurred and the names of the persons beaten, were not revealed by the attorney general, who stated he thought it was better not to make them public at the present time.

Attorney General McCall gave assurance, however, that each of these crimes will be promptly and fully investigated, and that every means at his command will be used to bring the perpetrators to justice in every instance, he said, the five reports filed with him yesterday stated that the floggings were administered by persons wearing the robes and regalia of of the Ku Klux Klan.

In addition to the reports of lashings, the attorney general stated he has also received within the past few days, a number of reports of persons who have received mysterious threats of violence to follow if they did not heed warnings contained in anonymous messages. One report was to the effect that the person making it, after receiving threats of violence, was fired upon from the darkness on his way home during the hours of night, three bullets piercing his hat. Another report told, it is stated, of a man who was so terrorized and hounded by repeated threats and warnings, that he fled the state in fear of his life, after selling his business and his home for what he could get for them.

One Occurred Aug. 30.

The last of the five whippings reported to him yesterday, the attorney general said, occurred on August 30 last. In one of these lashings, the victim was scourged so viciously that blisters were raised on his flesh.

There have been no more complaints from Crenshaw county to the attorney general's office of intimidation of state witnesses in pending flogging trials there, since Chief Walter K. McAdory of the State Law Enforcement Department, and a force of deputies, working under the order of Governor Bibb Graves, issued at the suggestion of Attorney General McCall—has been prosecuting an investigation into the matter. Mr. McAdory had not made a report to the governor up to aturday, dealing with this investigation. The inference to be drawn from this fact therefore, is that the inquiry has not yet been completed.

Friday, it is reported, James Esdale, Grand Dragon of the Ku Klux Klan in Alabama, held a conference in Montgomery with Bert Thomas, Great Titan of the Northern Province of Alabama, and Cecil Davis, reputed former Great Titan and Grand Kligraph of the Klan in the State. Whether the reported conference had to do with the pending trials of Klansmen in Crenshaw County, on flogging charges, is not known. It is reported further that several of the Crenshaw County flogging case defendants, were also in Montgomery, Friday.

Ku Klux Klan – 1927

Alabama

WHY MANY MEMBERS ARE QUITTING THE KLAN



—Birmingham Age-Herald

GOVERNOR ADVISES CAUTION IN HIRING SPECIAL COUNSEL

Attorney General Asserts Money Wisely Expended Whatever Cost That Court May Triumph Over Mob Rule

BRICKEN CENTER OF CONFAB; $1,500 LIMIT IS METED

Chief Executive Declines To Comment; Says Treasury Nearly Depleted

Disagreement between Gov. Bibb Graves and Attorney General Charlie C. McCall as to employment of attorneys to prosecute flogging cases, and the amount to be expended for this purpose, became known yesterday evening in an interview with the attorney general, following a conference between himself and the governor, in Governor Graves' office.

Advertiser

Governor Graves who called Attorney General McCall into conference for the purpose of asking him how much flogging investigations and prosecutions would cost, referred to the employment by the attorney general of F. P. Bricken, Luverne attorney, to assist the state in prosecuting the Crenshaw county flogging cases, the attorney general stated, and said he preferred no attorneys be employed in the work but that solicitors be used instead.

11-3-27

On further questioning by the governor, the attorney general stated he advised the governor that he thought a reasonable fee for the prosecuting attorney for the state would be $100 a case, and that the governor objected to this on the ground that it might involve the state in an expense of $10,000. To this the attorney general replied. he said, that he does not expect all of the Crenshaw cases to be tried to a finish and the attorney's fees involved should be far less than $10,000. The governor, Attorney General McCall states, indicated he would approve the expending of $1,500 for this purpose, after he, the attorney general, had suggested the cost would probably not exceed that amount. Attention is called to the fact by the attorney general, however, that this sum would be at the rate of only $15 a case, in the event all the cases are tried.

Will See That Bricken Aids

Attorney General McCall said he told Governor Graves that regardless of any arrangement Mr. Bricken will assist the state in the prosecution of the flogging cases in Crenshaw county, and that he, the attorney general, will personally see to this.

At the conclusion of the interview Attorney General McCall declared that he cannot think of any phase of crime that has come to the attention of law-abiding citizens of the nation and state that deserves more vigorous treatment and a wiser disposition of public funds than is justified and warranted "in blotting out forever the shameful and disgraceful escapades of those who have so arrogantly assumed, with the aid of the mask and the lash, the klan robe and regalia, to pay insult to the duly constituted courts of justice." He added that, "whatever it costs to clear the name of Alabama of these brazen crimes will, in my opinion, be money wisely expended."

Governor Graves when called over the telephone last night and advised of the statement by the attorney general as to what passed between them during the conference in the governor's office yesterday afternoon, declined to make any comment, stating he preferred first to read the printed report of what Attorney General McCall had said.

The attorney general said Governor Graves called him into conference in the governor's office, and asked him for a general idea of the amount of money that will be necessary to carry on investigational work and prosecutions in flogging cases, and how much it was going to cost. The governor, the attorney general said, was especially interested in the employment of an attorney by Attorney General McCall, stating he preferred that no attorneys be employed in this work, but that solicitors be used instead.

Expense Indefinite

"I told the governor," Attorney General McCall said, "that I didn't know what the criminal situation would develop, and could not say definitely what it would cost to bring to justice the vast number of floggers in Alabama. I also informed the governor that I have a tentative agreement with only one attorney, to assist in the prosecution of flogging cases, and would see that this attorney served as special prosecutor in the 102 flogging cases in Crenshaw county, on account of his peculiar ability." The attorney to whom reference is made, Attorney General McCall stated on inquiry, is F. P. Bricken, prominent practicing lawyer at Luverne.

The governor asked him, Attorney General McCall said, how much was owed by the state to Mr. Bricken for his services to date, to which he replied that he had not tried to figure it out. "I told him," the attorney general stated, "that if each of the 102 cases were prosecuted to a finish, that a fee of $100 in each case would be reasonable. He objected to this, stating it might involve the state in an expense of $10,000. I informed him I did not anticipate each case being tried to a finish, and that in my judgment, the total expense of attorneys' fees would be far less than that, in view of the fact that I did not contemplate the cases would be drawn out over a long period of time.

Indicates Approval of $1,500.

"He indicated to me he would approve an expenditure of $1,500 for this purpose, after I had suggested that the amount would very likely not go over that figure. However, it will be observed that such an amount will be at the rate of only $15 a case, if all the cases were litigated.

"I told the governor that I believed it was worth $10,000 to break up this lawlessness. He informed me that the treasury was somewhat depleted, and I told him I figured Alabama's credit was good enough to put a stop forever and for always to what I consider a reign of terror brought about by members of the Ku Klux Klan.

He stated that no such conditions existed in the state at the present time, and I told him that probably the only reason it did not exist was because of the Oneonta trials. I informed him that Mr. Bricken would assist the state in the prosecution of these cases in Crenshaw county regardless of any arrangement, and that I would personally see to that.

SITUATION CALLS FOR DRASTIC ACTION TO PRESERVE RIGHT

Charges Members Hold Impression Officers In Sympathy And Owe Allegiance To Order

PRAISES CHARLIE McCALL AS CONSCIENTIOUS OFFICIAL

Scores Heflin For Taking Refuge In Order After Ouster Attempt

A public appeal to Governor Bibb Graves to assume the leadership in disbanding the Ku Klux Klan in Alabama, is contained in a statement issued in Birmingham last night by John H. Bankhead, of Jasper, eminent lawyer, son of the late Senator John H Bankhead, and himself a candidate for the United States senate, in the democratic primary last year.

Advertiser

If Governor Graves will take the leadership in disbanding the Klan and call to his support his friends and followers in the organization, and use the prestige and power of his office, he can accomplish this result, Mr Bankhead says. By that action, he states, the governor would bring peace and harmony and concord to a divided and disturbed citizenship and would inevitably receive the enduring affection of the people of our great state. He would reestablish the supremacy of the constitution and the laws of our state."

Advertiser 10-27-27

Should Clean House

If Governor Graves is unwilling to undertake the suggested task, Mr Bankhead adds then every obligation of official duty requires that he could at least "clean his official household of every office holder who sets an example of contempt of the courts and of disrespect and disobeyance of the laws of the state."

Mr. Bankhead declares a deplorable state has been reached in Alabama, and that it is traceable to the situation within the Ku Klux Klan. In this connection he cites that since the last election a reign of hooded outlawry has prevailed in many sections of the state.

There must be some reason for the sudden and widely scattered unlawful riots which have marred the good repute of Alabama and aroused all law abiding citizens, Mr. Bankhead declares. He recalls that in the last election nearly all of the successful candidates were members of the Klan and states that the Klan elected a United States senator, the governor, the attorney general, solicitors in many circuits and sheriffs in many counties, and that since that time Alabama's other United States senator has apparently enlisted as a national Klan lecturer.

Have Defied Law

Many leaders and members of the Klan, Mr. Bankhead states have evidently entertained the impression that with such an array of law enforcement officers in sympathy with them, "that protection would be afforded them by officers who owed their election to the Klan, have unleashed their feelings and with abandon and recklessness have defied the law."

Referring to Attorney General Charlie C. McCall as a "courageous and conscientious public official" Mr Bankhead says the attorney general's action in resigning from the Klan has struck a responsive chord in the hearts of those who still hope for a

return of orderly government and the infliction of punishment under the safeguards provided by the constitution and the laws of the land.

The most startling development he says, is the statement by the attorney general, that leaders of the Klan are conspiring to violate the law, and are obstructing the administration of justice.

Calling attention to the fact that Governor Graves is the chief enforcement officer of the state, Mr. Bankhead says it seems to him that the time for action by Governor Graves has arrived. The situation, he states, calls for positive, drastic leadership by the governor, to the end that it shall everywhere be known and recognized that the laws of Alabama must be respected and obeyed "by Klansmen and all others alike." It seems to him, Mr. Bankhead declares that "the time has arrived for the Ku Klux Klan in Alabama to disband." He calls upon Governor Graves to disband it, stating it has fallen into irresponsible and bad leadership, and that according to current reports many of its former good members have withdrawn.

What is Purpose?

The attorney general has stated. Mr. Bankhead cites, that many crimes have been plotted in the Klaverns and executed by officers and members. Then he asks the question: "What useful purpose is the Ku Klux Klan now serving?" Why should an order continue to function which is fermenting so many troubles and discords among our people?" Surely, Mr. Bankhead says: "those who desire to prevent Catholics from holding public office in Alabama do not need a secret political party to measure political swords with less than 2 per cent of the voters of the state." Surely also, he says, "an organization is not to be maintained merely to boycott the Jews in trade and commerce."

I also informed him that there were quite a number of persons under indictment for flogging in Crenshaw county who would be delighted in the event I were not able to avail myself of the services of Mr. Bricken but that Honorable Calvin Poole, the circuit solicitor, was the first to recommend to me Mr. Bricken's employment, and that the sentiment in Crenshaw county amongst the law-abiding element was unanimous that the state should avail itself of his services in these matters, and that I felt that on account of his particular ability and thorough knowledge of the local situation, the state would be seriously handicapped if it should not be able to use him.

Has Used Economy.

"I might add," Attorney General McCall said, "that in the expenditure of any public monies, I have used the greatest care to practice economy and those investigators which I have used are men whom I know I can depend on. It has never been my purpose to expend the state's money injudiciously.

"I cannot think of any phase of crime which has come to the attention of the law-abiding citizens of the nation and state that deserves more vigorous treatment and a wiser disposition of public funds than is justified and warranted in blotting out forever the shameful and disgraceful escapade of those who have so arrogantly assumed, with the aid of the mask and the lash, the klan robe and regalia, to pay insult to the duly constituted courts of justice, and whatever it costs to clear the name of Alabama of these brazen crimes will, in my opinion, be money wisely expended."

BANKHEAD TO GRAVES: "EVENTUALLY, WHY NOT NOW?"

There is nothing gratuitous, for all its boldness and candor, in the public statement of John H. Bankhead in which he calls upon the Governor of Alabama to assume the leadership in disbanding the Ku Klux Klan—an organization which, in the words of the Attorney-General of this State, but recently resigned from the Klan, is "at war with constituted authority."

Advertiser

There is nothing improper, nor disrespectful, nor untimely in this open and direct appeal. If the present situation in Alabama does not warrant such plain-speaking as that which marks the Bankhead statement, then what does? Mr. Bankhead is a responsible citizen of this State. As such he has the right to put his feet under the council board and sit in on discussions of policies which affect the civilization under which all of us, himself included, must live.

10-24-27

It is in this spirit that Mr. Bankhead protests. Here and there over the State the Klan has committed an appalling number of crimes against the peace and dignity of the State; the Klan has been active in evil-doing because it presumed upon the friendship and sympathy of public officials, among them Governor Graves, the two United States Senators, the Attorney-General and others. The lawless groups in the Klan must have felt that it was safe to flog and intimidate under Klan-elected officials. In addition two officials of the State of Alabama have recently defied the State by their refusal, or expressed willingness to refuse, to give damaging testimony against the Klan, pleading prior allegiance to their oaths as Klansmen. These officials were appointed by the Governor of Alabama, or appointed with his consent. One of them showed up to assume the duties of his office after his release from jail where he had served a five-day sentence for contempt of court.

Here Mr. Bankhead says:

"The Governor is the chief enforcement officer in the State. . . .

Montgomery Ala

"The situation calls for drastic leadership by the State's Governor to the end that all who run may read that the laws of Alabama must be respected and obeyed by Klansmen and all others alike. . . .

"Is Governor Graves going to condone and approve that form of super-government and law nullification by his capito appointees? . . .

"It seems to me the time has come in Alabama for the Klan to disband. . . .

"I make a public appeal to Governor Graves to assume the leadership in disbanding the Klan. . . .

"By that action he would bring peace and harmony and concord to a divided and disturbed citizenship, and would inevitably receive the enduring affection of the public of our great State. He would reestablish the supremacy of the Constitution and the laws of our State. . . .

"If Governor Graves is unwilling to undertake the suggested task, then every obligation of official duty requires that he should at least clean his official household of every office holder who sets an example of contempt of the courts and of disrespect and disobedience of the laws of the State.

"It is difficult to understand how he can do less under all the circumstances. I sincerely hope that Governor Graves will bring order out of chaos."

The march of recent events had already placed upon the head of Governor Graves the peculiar responsibility suggested by Mr. Bankhead. The Jasper lawyer's statement merely gives expression to the facts of these events, and draws the only logical sound conclusion which a tracing of the facts warrants.

The Attorney-General of Alabama has publicly repudiated the Klan because as a law enforcement officer he did not regard it as proper longer to dignify the order with his membership.

As this is written the reporters bring the news that the Tuscaloosa Klan has voluntarily surrendered its charter and disbanded. This is the beginning of the end. Governor Graves owes it to himself and to his State to hasten the disintegration of an order which because of intractable elements within it has got beyond control. The Governor will find that Klansmen in all parts of the State will applaud him, however savagely the extremists and the lawless individuals in it may assail him.

KLAN HEAD CALLED IN FLOGGING CASE

Luverne, Ala., October 11.—(AP)—Cue Bozeman, a farmer, was arrested late today on a warrant charging him with kidnaping in connecting with thea flogging of Travis Bozeman, his cousin, in August, 1926.

Bozeman's arrest was the latestep relating to the special grand jury investigation of masked violence in Crensbaw county, which Attorney General Charlie C. McCall, of Alabama, says has affected 50 persons. Mr. McCall, who personally is directing the hearing, has indicated he has gathered sufficient evidence to indict 90 or more persons, for complicity in masked whippings.

Names of four of the 20 persons who have been whipped were brought to light today. Ada Lowe was whipped about three years ago. Travis Bobeman was flogged in August, 1926; R. Williams last December, and Miss Annie Clements last February.

Attorney General McCall indicated earlier in the day that he might call a night session tonight to speed up the work of examining witnesses, several of whom went before the investigating body today.

Tomorrow James Esdale, grand dragon of the Ku Klux Klan in Alabama, and George H. Thigpen, state superintendent of insurance, are scheduled to face the grand jury. Mr. McCall refused to disclose what connection the two men might have with the whipping cases.

50 NEGROES FINED IN CONTEMPT CASES

Joy Over Jury Verdict Brings Cheers; Judge Makes Joy Short Lived

TUSCALOOSA, ALA., Oct. 6.—(AP)—When a jury found R. McKenzie, negro doctor, not guilty in a criminal case yesterday, negroes in the courtroom gave vent to their pleasure with lusty cheers.

Constitution 10-7-27

This brought fines of $5 each to 50 negro men and women by Judge H. B. Foster. Most of them paid the fine but a few went to jail for contempt of court.

Advertiser 10-12-27

Ku Klux Klan—1927

Alabama.

DR. McNEILL DISCOVERS A "CONSPIRACY"

Dr. H. H. McNeill, Klan apologist, puts it this way:

Editor The Advertiser:

Gov. Bibb Graves has shown his manly good sense in his persistent silence in answer to the constant and malicious assaults upon him, directly and indirectly, by certain daily papers and the raw youth whom they keep in the limelight, and whom they will drop as a hunk of mud when he has served their purpose. There are also a few correspondents who have joined in to club the governor into their service to carry out what they think is a deep laid plot.

The Coolidge-silence of the governor pesters the coadjutors of the plot muchly. They have worn themselves quite to a frazzle against the impregnable wall of that silence.

This coalition, not to say conspirators, have no regard for the good name of our State. The honor of the State is easily sacrificed to the success of their plot which has become apparent to the public. Our noble State with more than two millions of honorable people has, for more than two months, been daily advertised to the world and put in such a state of chaos, moral and political, that property, liberty and life are in constant jeopardy. This coalition has shamefully maligned our good people in order to accomplish a selfish political design.

Since this design has become patent they are daily making new friends for the governor, and if he will continue to do his duty in silence he will see their inglorious defeat.

One million, eight hundred thousand people of our great State are honest, honorable and law-abiding citizens, and while they have suffered patiently for more than two months the defamation heaped upon them, are now beginning to turn upon their defamers and will destroy them in their indignation.

H. H. McNEILL.

Prattville, Ala., Nov. 8, 1927.

What is the secret of the Klan's hold on the heart of Dr. McNeill? Why is it that this bold defender of the Constitution, this tireless champion of Law Enforcement, this vociferous advocate of political morality, feels under compulsion publicly to stigmatize the attorney general of this State as a "raw youth" and to eulogize the governor of Alabama for his "silence"? What is the point at this juncture in the history of the two officials of throwing sulphur at the one and incense at the other? What has McCall done that so irritates the ethical idealist from Prattville? Why does the "silence" of Gov. Graves warm the heart of the same gentleman?

Because Dr. McNeill does not himself give us the answer to these questions, we are left to guess at it. Our guess is this: Dr. McNeill is in a rage at Charlie McCall, because McCall is a hardboiled egg instead of an amiable jellyfish, because McCall, as every one now sees, was in deadly earnest when he said he purposed to stop flogging and intimidation by Klansmen and others in this State, because McCall has shown that he is ready to throw the whole weight of established government of this State in the balance against invisible and irresponsible government; he is against McCall because he resigned from the Klan and denounced it as a menace to law and order. He is against McCall because the attorney general has his heart in the fight he is making.

By the same token, Dr. McNeill is grateful to Gov. Graves because the governor has bucked at the cost of the State's war on the lawless elements within the Klan. Gov. Graves has done nothing since his great moral crusade in Montgomery last Spring which so endears him to the Klan and its friends, such as Dr. McNeill appears to be, as his recent action in calling in the attorney general to hear a lecture on economy. A great many Klansmen are under indictment and awaiting prosecution in Alabama and their friends realize that all gestures of economy should be applauded now before it is too late. You see, IT WON'T BE LONG NOW.

When McCall commented upon his interview with the governor, the governor declined to talk. Coolidge himself could not have been more silent. Dr. McNeill cheers.

Lately numerous suggestions have been made to the effect that Gov. Graves owes it to the office he occupies to resign from the Klan as a protest against the evil which its lawless members have committed, it having been observed that although a Klansman may be indicted and convicted of crimes committed as a Klansman, he is never expelled from the order by the lovers of law and order in the Klan. It has also been suggested that the governor should use his influence to induce the Klan, now in disgrace, to disband.

But Gov. Graves still maintains his silence, thereby winning the unstinted admiration of Dr. McNeill.

There is accordingly, a widespread impression in Alabama that Gov. Graves is not extremely enthusiastic over the war on lawless bands that have certainly terrorized more than one community in this State. For this show of moderation, Dr. McNeill, himself widely celebrated for his spirit of moderation in all things, applauds in that diffident manner of his which we have long found so charming.

For these reasons, and others that we could think of, Dr. McNeill's concern for "the good name of the State" leads us to fear that he may have confused the State with the Invisible Empire. As for the injury which McCall and the newspapers are said to have done the "good name of the State," it ought to be said that they have merely exposed the facts. The facts were and are hurting the State, but their publication is a public service. It would have been disgraceful not to have brought them to light and acted upon them in the only way that a law-loving commonwealth could be expected to act.

Does Dr. McNeill wish us to infer that he thinks it was "malicious" of the newspapers to publish the Grand Jury reports from Blount, Randolph, Jefferson and Crenshaw, or that it was a "conspiracy" against the "honor" of the State to print the report of what the attorney general found had happened in Talladega County? Partisan antipathy for those who have embarrassed the God-fearing, man-fearing wearers of masks and robes is expected to go to such extremes of expression in private conversation. Indeed some of them are reported to have gone somewhat farther in the use of tart phrases and epithets. But one scarcely expects responsible citizens to be so bold as to snort "thataway" right out in public where everybody can hear it. Why not follow this thought through logically and end by denouncing the four Grand Juries in as many parts of the State that have spoken so plainly and unpleasantly on the shortcomings of the Klan?

If the newspapers (and Charlie McCall) have injured the State's reputation (our own notion is that they have improved the State's reputation) the Grand Juries aforesaid have done even more injury. That being the case, it behooves the always just, if sometimes indignant, Dr. McNeill to go to the heart of the question and assail those oathbound grand jurors who are known to be participants in the "conspiracy" which Dr. McNeill has discovered.

Since Dr. McNeill has at last lined up definitely with the forces that are pained at the militancy of Attorney General McCall, Judge Steele, Judge McCoy, Judge Gamble and Judge Hinds, the grand jurors with whom they have been working, as well as the newspapers that have stood behind them, we anticipate that presently he will reproach each and all of them as roughly as he has already reproached the "raw youth" aforesaid and the family journals that have roared at Charlie, "Ride 'em, cowboy!"

"EVIL FRUITS OF EVIL LEADERSHIP"

Wherever the State goes into action against floggers Klansmen are indicted and convicted—because they are guilty. The Klan has committed one outrage after another in a number of Alabama counties. If it has not committed or inspired every flogging by a masked gang, it has certainly led and set the pace. Certainly, too, but for the Klan, flogging by gangs would never have become a serious problem in Alabama.

In Blount county the State fell upon a group of Jefferson county Klansmen, indicted them and convicted them. The State has indicted a number of Klansmen in Jefferson county and will presently undertake to convict. There were 17 floggings by Klansmen in Randolph county, but the grand jury could not identify guilty individuals, and so could not indict.

Now, the most spectacular and amazing feat of all has been achieved by the State in Crenshaw county. The special grand jury of Crenshaw ends a week of deliberation and investigation by returning 102 indictments against thirty-seven citizens of Alabama, including a "Christian" minister and a prominent lawyer—everyone, without exception, a member of the Ku Klux Klan; and every outrage but one charged against them done by men wearing Klan regalia.

It is no secret that conditions in Crenshaw county for some two or three years have been very bad; indeed it has been openly charged that a reign of terror existed in that county because of the activities of the Ku Klux Klan. This open charge, this popular impression, are now justified by the action of an oathbound grand jury in returning 102 indictments against members of the Klan.

This grand jury, spurred on by the sharp tongue of Judge A. E. Gamble and by the wealth of evidence laid before it by Attorney-General McCall, and moved also by its sense of decency and public duty, not only returns 102 indictments, but writes a denunciation of Klan rule and Klan leadership in Crenshaw county which will take its place in the history of this commonwealth beside the report of the Randolph county grand jury made last August. The grand jury, composed of sovereign citizens, solemnly arraigns James Esdale, Grand Dragon of the Klan of Alabama, in terms which should make even that dignitary wince. Other high officials of the Klan likewise are arraigned and with Esdale charged with "evil leadership" which now has borne "evil fruits." The report is indeed a masterly document.

Can honest men in the Ku Klux Klan of Alabama longer endure the torture to which their consciences must have been subjected since July 1? Can the good law-abiding, fair-minded people in the Klan, of whom we know there are many, longer be in doubt as to the profound error they are committing in lending further aid and comfort to this organization? Can they longer be in doubt as to the evil character of the Klan? Can they now afford longer to affiliate with it?

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The cases will be presented to the grand jury by the attorney general who has already stated he has enough evidence to indict at least 80 persons in connection with the lashings that have been perpetrated in the county. Issuance by Judge Gamble of the order for the special grand jury term, followed a conference Tuesday afternoon between the circuit judge, Circuit Solicitor Calvin Poole, Attorney General McCall and Assistant Attorney General John J. Hawkins.

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Several attempts to purchase the property have been made recently, it was alleged, but the offers were turned down by Jackson and his mother.

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Efforts to locate the negro and his mother at their home near Shoals City tonight proved fruitless. No one seemed to know of their whereabouts. Several persons advanced the theory that they had taken the terrorists at their word and left the county, while others vouchsafed that they were in hiding.

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The note which the negro received was said, was badly written upon a cheap piece of paper, and the grammar and spelling were very bad.

In a letter addressed to The Advertiser, Mr. Jackson gave a detailed account of the affair. The letter, he said, was not an attempt to obtain their home through intimidation, but charged Abe Jackson with stealing mortgaged cotton, telling him and his mother to be gone before November or "You know what."

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Ku Klux Klan—1927

Alabama.

A KLAN-RIDDEN STATE.

According to the Attorney General of Alabama that state is a living example of the inability of organized government to cope with the intimidation practiced by the Ku Klux Klan. Spurred on by the reign of terror that exists in Crenshaw county, the legal authorities secured over one hundred indictments and forty-five arrests on various flogging charges. The witnesses who testified before the grand jury have been threatened and intimidated and in many instances thrown out of employment.

This action by the white robed night riders of the klan caused Attorney General McCall, himself a member of the organization, to resign his membership in a letter to the Exalted Cyclops, published in the New York World, in which he states that the klan in Alabama is in the hands of a lawless leadership. He added that he was convinced, that it was not the purpose or intent of its leaders to aid the officers of the law to enforce it, where crimes are committed by the klansmen. The leaders have intimidated the lawabiding members and attacked the officials who are seeking to enforce the laws. Mr. McCall said that he regarded his oath as an officer of the law as superior to any private or fraternal obligation. This is opposed to all the traditions of the klan. and stamps Mr. McCall as recreant to his Klan obligations.

Attorney General McCall was elected last November on a klan ticket, as was Governor Bibb Graves, who is an acknowledged klan patriarch. A report was presented to the Governor of the powerlessness of the law to protect its witnesses against the intimidation of the klan. Some of these witnesses have fled in terror, while others whose homes had been visited by masked men, had been warned to leave. Several trials for flogging in Jefferson county were postponed until January, it appearing that a great majority of the veniremen from whom a jury would be chosen, were klansmen.

If anything more was needed to show the menace of the klan to law and order this situation in Alabama would show it beyond question. So clear is the issue that it forced the chief law officer of the State to sever his connection with such a lawless organization. The fact that the occupant of this office should himself be a klansman is sufficient evidence of the power that it has taken into its hands. That Mr. McCall should revolt against longer continuing as a member of such an organization shows a saving sense of fitness.

What is to be done in the case of a state like Alabama where organized government has broken down under the weight of klan domination? Should the Federal government be asked to step in and restore law and order, or will the State eventually be able to re-establish its sovereignty and enforce its laws through its own courts and officials. The problem that confronts Alabama is one that threatens every state where invisible government by an irresponsible secret organization is suffered to usurp the functions of the regularly constituted authorities, unfit as they are in many cases.

ALABAMA BAPTISTS ON MASK AND LASH

The Alabama Baptist Convention, at its annual meeting in Birmingham, adopted by unanimous vote the following vigorous expression of its views on the evil of mask and lash in Alabama:

Thus far in the year 1927, Alabama has kept unbroken her fine record of no death by lynching. That negative statement is, unfortunately, as far as the committee can go in congratulating our State. It is one thing to say there have been no lynchings of the old sort. It would be another to declare that Alabama has been free from mob violence.

In recent months our State has been disgraced by revelations of organized lawlessness on a scale more widespread than was ever known before. No lynchings perhaps, but the lashings are just as outrageous in their flaunting of personal rights and in their defiance of established institutions of justice.

We believe that the Christian men and women of this State must repudiate publicly and wherever possible all acts of masked violence and must openly uphold the openly delegated peace officers among us. Punishment inflicted outside the law is anarchy, a flagrant and dangerous denial of all law.

This is direct, sweeping, unqualified. Nothing less was to be expected from so select a body of Protestant Christian citizens in Alabama, for once the facts about the tyranny of mask and lash in this State were made known, it followed that all right-thinking citizens would in due time express their indignation.

This expression by the authorized representatives of the powerful Baptist forces of Alabama is not marred or weakened by evasive qualifications or apologies, nor by attacks on the motives of the people of this State whose energy and sense of duty caused the facts on which the Baptists now speak to be brought to light.

There are no "ifs" and "buts" in this expression. The indignation of Baptists at the rule of mask and lash in several localities in this State is not tentative. Their statement is sweeping and unconditional.

The Alabama Baptist Convention will not be accused of participating in a plot to discredit the Graves administration.

This convention will not be accused of participating in a plot to nominate Al Smith for president nor to put over a wet plank in the next Democratic platform.

This convention will not be accused by Tom Heflin of insincerity and inconsistency because it neglects to denounce Father O'Connor who is under indictment for a serious offense; nor will Heflin have the gall to insinuate that the Baptists are trying to discredit him, much less to get him poisoned.

It cannot be said that this clean-cut declaration by the Baptists of Alabama was inspired by the Pope.

Nor will the Baptists be denounced for the injury their declaration about Alabama's "disgrace" may do the State throughout the country.

This splendid declaration should stiffen the backbones of those oficers of the law, including jurors, on whom rests the responsibility of bringing justice to the cowardly masked floggers of men and women in this State.

The Report of Randolph County Grand Jury

The report of the grand jury of Randolph county at the August term of the circuit court was of more than ordinary interest from the standpoint of the matters it investigated and from the recommendations it made. Indeed, the report is significant. It has given to Randolph county, already in the limelight, an added measure of publicity.

The grand jury was in session a longer while than is usual and the result as shown in the report published in full in this paper last week are not to the credit of the county, except as indicating the diligence of the solicitor and grand jury in the investigation of supposed violations of law.

In the first place, the number of indictments returned was high—forty-five. More than one member of the grand jury has been heard to say that if it had not been for liquor there would probably have been not more than eight or nine indictments returned. It is not strange then, that the jurors placed the weight of public commendation upon the brave efforts being made by the sheriff and his deputies to break up the making and selling of intoxicants in this county. Encouraging headway is being made, and if the pace set by the sheriff, the grand jury and the courts is maintained as at present, conditions will steadily, if not rapidly, improve.

In this connection must be noted the recommendation of the grand jury that the present judge of probate be deposed from office on account of his alleged use of intoxicants or narcotics and incidents resulting therefrom. That the grand jury of Randolph county, sworn to do its whole duty, felt impelled to make this recommendation is a condition that is universally regretted. Since this is a matter that passes on

to the attorney general and supreme court for final action, we may well refrain from further discussion of it.

* * *

The greater portion of the general report made to the court dealt with the conclusions of the members of the grand jury, speaking with one voice, concerning the series of floggings that has been carried on in this county the past twelve months. "The investigation reveals a most intolerable condition," says the report, which further states that evidence has developed that seventeen persons have been whipped in this county. These whippings, it is stated, have occurred in the late hours of the night by organized mobs wearing white robes and white masks over their faces, with the tags of their automobiles covered.

The report proceeds to describe the inhuman torture inflicted upon at least some of the victims, and the further fact that they had been intimidated, in some cases, from reporting their experiences. The jury comes to the conclusion that these depredations have been committed by members of an organization known as the Knights of the Ku Klux Klan, and calls for such legislation as will unmask these marauders and provide sufficient punishment for them when apprehended.

The Roanoke Leader does not consider that it is the province of this newspaper to oppose any secret orders in and of themselves, whether such orders be Masons, Knights of Pythias, Knights of the Klan, or even Knights of Columbus. So far as we know there may be good features in all of them. This writer is not on the inside of any of them. We do consider, however, that it is incumbent upon us to condemn any practice performed by members of any such organizations, or even condoned by members that in any way infringes upon the rights and liberties of any American citizen, however humble.

It is the opinion of the editor that any member of any organization who is worthy of citizenship must likewise condemn all forms of lawlessness, regardless of who may commit them. That some men of good intentions may have at first thought that administering a flogging to a guilty person would serve the purpose of purifying the moral conditions in a community, we do not doubt. But it is incredible that any good citizen, since the horrible exhibition of what such a course leads to has been thrown on the canvas of publicity, can longer be in doubt of what his duty is. The lines have been clearly drawn. It is law or lawlessness; government or anarchy; safety or ruin.

The grand jury has sounded a clarion call. It is up to the citizens to respond and wipe the shame from our record that has been blazed abroad, by showing to the world that such exhibitions of mob violence will not be tolerated in Randolph county—in Alabama. The law is ample to protect us if the citizenship will but do its duty. While no true bills have been found, yet justice is not dead. "The mills of the gods grind slowly, but they grind exceeding fine."

The Roanoke Leader believes that the reign of the lash is already at an end so far as our county is concerned. It would be well for all of us if such is found to be the case. The public mind is aroused. The representatives of the law are determined. If city and county authorities cannot cope with the situation, then the state stands ready to put its detectives and enforcement ofifcers at work in our midst. The power of the government, with all its resources of men and money, is pledged to protect the humblest and weakest citizen. And it must be done. It will be done.

* * *

Meanwhile, those who are threatened should and doubtless will be prepared hereafter to defend themselves. A bloody lesson of this kind was given us just over in Georgia a few months ago. Let no one be careless in responding to calls, especially at night, for law-abiding citizens may become the victims of spite the same as those who are really violators of the law and disturbers of the peace. The Leader is not an advocate of force, only as a last resort, but those who are wise will be on their guard, and only those who are bereft of reason will hurl themselves against the wall of defense which the law has built around the habitation of every citizen.—Roanoke Leader.

THE GOVERNOR AND THE ATTORNEY GENERAL DISCUSS COSTS

Governor Bibb Graves and Attorney-General Charlie C. McCall cannot agree on a flogging budget. The Governor, revealing an unexpected passion for economy, calls the Attorney-General in for a parley about the possible cost of trying all these cases which the energetic young prosecutor has stirred up here and there over the State. It appears, from newspaper reports, that the Governor has a general idea that $1,500 would be about enough for the Attorney-General to use in employing special prosecutors to assist him and the solicitors. He is appalled at the possibility that the cost may run up to $10,000. Advertiser

Mr. McCall, on the other hand, thinks that it would be worth the price, even though it cost $10,000, to redeem Alabama's good name by prosecuting and convicting the men who have been whipping people in this State. He says he wishes to avoid extravagance, nevertheless he regards it as necessary here and there to hire a special lawyer to assist a local solicitor. He holds, apparently, that the State has crossed the Rubicon in this war on mask and lash, and that it cannot turn back because of the possible expense. 1-4-27

The Governor says there is no reign of terror in Alabama at this time. Mr. McCall grants as much, but says, in effect "The only reason there is none is that we convicted several floggers at Oneonta." That seems to be a perfect retort. We have had a reign of terror here and there in Alabama. We have none now. The reason is that the forces of the law, under the leadership of the Attorney-General have made flogging unsafe.

If, however, the Attorney-Genera should be halted in his tracks; if he shoulc not be given the assistance which the extraordinary circumstances warrant; if very little should come of the good seed already sown, will not the floggers take fresh courage and return to their unfinished business? There is a clear danger in this. But even if there were no such danger, it still remains the solemn duty of this State to leave nothing undone in its effort to convict the persons guilty of these crimes against civilization.

The Advertiser does not profess to be an expert on the cost of winning such a war as is now under way in Alabama. It does not know what fees good prosecutors should charge the State; it does not know how many prosecutors the Attorney-General and the circuit solicitors may require to assist them. But The Advertiser does feel that the Attorney-General should be allowed a free hand and given adequate support by the Governor. We can understand that the Governor of the State must in the end be held responsible for expenditures by the various departments, that on him rests the obligation to fix the limit beyond which the Attorney-General may not go in the expenditure of public funds. Nevertheless, the law seems to contemplate a liberal policy with regard to expenditures for special prosecutors in making war on crime.

Regarding the conference with the Attorney-General, an extended report of which appeared in The Advertiser yesterday, Governor Graves says: "The conference concerned an administrative routine matter and does not require any comment."

Even so, an issue has been raised which will excite comment, and we presume to suggest to the Governor that in the circumstances he should take pains to clarify his point of view. It would seem to be his duty to assure the public that he has no disposition to quibble over the expenditure of a few hundred dollars to wipe out this disgrace. To do so would allay possible suspicion that after all his heart is not in the crusade against mask and lash which is being directed by the Attorney-General. Let the Governor meditate what it has cost the State to be the scene of this long series of outrages. Not what it will cost to redeem the State's honor.

Negro Flogged to Death

LINDEN, Ala., Nov. 2.—Indictments charging manslaughter were returned by the Marengo County Grand Jury today against Chris Ray, Renie Phillips and J. P. Phillips, who have been held in jail at Lindsen on a charge of flogging L. Greathouse, a Negro, inflicting wounds which later caused his death. The accused were each released on $1,000 bail. News Herald 11-12-27

Evidence at the preliminary trial indicated that Greathouse was flogged by unmasked men for removing a piece of wire from an automobile belonging to Ray which had been sold to Ray by the white employer of the Negro. He did not know that the automobile had been sold and believed his employer would not object to the removal of the wire, which he used in repairing a battery on his own car. Greathouse contracted pneumonia shortly after the flogging and died a few days afterward.

150 Alabama Klansmen Quit

Associated Negro Press

TUSCALOOSA, Ala., Nov. (2, — Incensed by the recent disorders, floggings and the like, which the state laid at the door of the Ku Klux Klan, 150 members of the Klan number 15 of the Alabama realm of the Ku Klux Klan withdrew from the order at the recent meeting, according to an announcement made Friday by Bruce Shelton, former head of the local klavern. New York World 11-27-27

The men who resigned were loud in their praise of the action of Charlie McCall, attorney general of Alabama who recently withdrew from the Klan and declared that the organization was undermining the foundations of Americanism.

Ku Klux Klan — 1927

Alabama

DRYS INSPIRE KLAN FLOGGINGS IN ALABAMA

Public Says Victims Violated Law.

BY PHILIP KINSLEY.
[Chicago Tribune Press Service.]

Birmingham, Ala., Nov. 13.—[Special.]—Alabama is caught between two fires in its war on the Ku Klux Klan. One is the desire to keep the state as dry and moral as possible, which is what the klan is trying to do. The other is the desire to accomplish this in a legal and orderly manner.

The klan is a sort of puritanical vigilance committee. Most of the floggings are attributed to two causes, offenses against prohibition and sex irregularities. Most of the persons flogged "had something coming to them" in popular estimation. They were dealing in liquor or promoting immorality. This is why the people are not greatly aroused over the so-called reign of terror in the state, why the governor is silent when asked to resign from the klan, why the state is having an uphill fight to get evidence and square juries.

Cause Is Popular.

The cause, if not the method, is popular, and that is something for critics to consider. There is one case, however, that has aroused general indignation. It concerns property rights as well as personal liberty. It is to be the test of strength between Attorney General Charlie McCall and the klan leaders.

Arthur Hitt is just a white man's nigger. Any attempt to describe him or particularize him is met with this sort of response. He has been so treated and frightened that he has fled to the deepest part of his native woods with his dogs. Even the authorities may have trouble in getting him out. He has lost about everything in this world, family scattered, home in strange hands. No ease or comfort in life any more, and the woods at night filled with mysterious shadows and flitting white robes for him.

Arthur lived in a tree shaded glen in the hills about 18 miles from Birmingham with his wife, Minnie, and brood of children. He had lived there as long as he could remember, and the property was his, 60 acres that reached up hill and down dale on both sides of the winding road down to the railroad tracks.

Came from Grandmother.

It had come down to Arthur from his grandmother, who had been given the land by her master. Arthur's house stood by the side of the road, and Minnie carefully tended the flowers that bordered the road, making this a bright bend.

The thickly wooded hills sheltered away from the front door, where thick green vines made a shady arbor. But the back way the hills opened and gave a field for corn and another piece of rich bottom land ran down toward a spring of pure water.

The house was old, 50 years or so, but solid. Arthur never bothered to paint it. It blended in with the trees and hills. No one paid any attention to Arthur and his family. That is, no white folks, until May when one day a man appeared who wanted to buy the land. Arthur straightened his shoulders and looked hard at Minnie when the sum was mentioned, more than a thousand dollars. Maybe it was $1,900. Arthur cannot remember. He shook his head. He would not sell. Always had the place, nowhere else to go. No, he would keep his home. And he went away into the woods.

The man had told him that it was getting to be a white neighborhood and he was not wanted there and had better sell. Arthur had never had any trouble with his white neighbors. The nearest house was half a mile down the road. "He never done us harm," said those neighbors.

Arthur Is Worried.

A week later Arthur sat on the big flat stone in front of his house in the evening, after a hard day's work in the field. It was a warm, mellow night and he sat there a long time thinking. He was worried, thinking about what that man had said. The dogs rubbed against him and the children played in the yard. He would hate to go, but maybe he would have to, if the white folks said so. He never had in all his life lifted his voice against his white lords, and was content to be let alone.

One thing that worried him was that he had found some one had planted a still in the woods on his place. He knew this meant trouble. He had gone up there at night and had emptied out the whisky. He feared something, he knew not what. Finally Minnie called him to bed and he went in. About midnight he was awakened by a loud knocking on the door and he heard men talking on the porch. He asked who was there and a voice said, "Your friend Mr. Smith is in trouble with his car down the road and he wants you to bring some gas." This sounded all right to Arthur.

Struck Him on Head.

One white man in the world he trusted was F. J. Smith of Birmingham, whose bird dogs he was training and who was a frequent visitor. He opened the door and two short, rather heavy men, dressed in masks and white robes, sprang at him, struck him on the head and carried him out from under his vines, past his flowers and garden, and threw him into an automobile.

Other men in robes were in the car. Arthur was too dazed and frightened to tell where they were going, but it was up the road, over the hill, into the wilderness. The trees leaned over and brushed the car. Now was the time for some of the powers of witchery that reside in the deep woods, something friendly that broods in nature and in animal, to come to the aid of Arthur. But the cattle breathed heavily and moved out of the way along the pasture fences and the dogs were crying afar off.

The car was stopped in a secluded valley and Arthur was dragged into a little pine grove. His hands were bound to a tree and he was stripped of his shirt. The men brought out a short thick strap, with a buckle in the end of it.

Lash Cuts Open Flesh.

"You've been carrying on with a white girl, letting her ride on your truck," said one of the white caps as he cut open the flesh on the Negro's back with a lash of the strap.

"You've got moonshine whisky on your place," was the second accusation, as more blows fell. Arthur had fallen against the tree, upheld only by his manacled hands. So caught, he seemed to be praying to the trees and the sky. Up through slavery, he had come to this. The buckle cut holes in his flesh and blood was on his head and running down his back. He would carry the marks to his grave.

The floggers grew weary after a while and they untied him and left him there. "You get out of this country, we don't want niggers around here," was the final order. Arthur knew that he must go. The white men said he must go. The dog found him and licked him and he got home somehow and told Minnie. They had no thought of seeking help or complaining, or going to law about it in revenge and hatred.

Sells Home for $900.

A day or two later a man came who offered Arthur $900 for his property and he signed it away. Minnie made her mark on the document, too. After commission and taxes and other things were deducted, Arthur was given a check for about $600.

Then came the sensation that brought this case into the center of interest and has kept it there since. On June 4, the warranty deed was signed and recorded this property with W. J. Worthington of Birmingham as the real purchaser. Mr. Worthington is a lawyer, a pillar in the Methodist church, teacher of a Bible class there, and had been a leader in the klan.

Could it be possible that this upright citizen would go to such lengths to obtain a piece of property. It was learned that he owned property adjoining the Hitt estate and much other land. Worthington had come into prominence sometime before this in a raid on Chinese restaurants. One night a group of klansmen in regalia descended on the restaurant looking for liquor, demanding tht booths be torn out, frightening the patrons and at last ordering them to report to the police for arrest.

Snifs for Rum Breath.

Worthington was recognized when he lifted his mask to better smell the breath of one of the patrons suspected of having taken a drink in the place. He was arrested for this, but had no trouble in getting out of it, and the booths were taken out as he had commanded. He was a power, a man of wealth, feared, hated, followed and admired.

Investigation of the Hitt flogging by the attorney general and Solicitor Jim Davis of Birmingham, who was threatened, but who did not stop, led to the charge of kidnaping. What the evidence is has not been disclosed. Hitt never told of his experience voluntarily.

Some time after he had been flogged and had sold his place he came to his friend Smith and told him to get his dogs as he was going away. When Smith asked him why he said he had been whipped and ordered away. Smith then went to the solicitor with the story or it never would have been known.

Worthington denies all part in the flogging and maintains that it was the work of moonshiners and had nothing to do with the forced sale.

Indicted for Bribery.

While the grand jury was investigating this and other cases it was learned that one Emmett Williams had been approached and offered money if he would testify that he took part in the Hitt flogging and that it was over a whisky war. Julius Lumpkin was indicted on a charge of bribery, and this case is pending as an interesting side light to the celebrated Worthington case.

Hitt has been forgotten. His home is silent. The dust is on the doorsills and windows. Flowers still are blooming sweetly by the roadside and the vines over the little porch cast a grateful shade for any one who comes along—floggers, investigators, or just poor wandering niggers.

The state will claim that Arthur Hitt's property was worth much more than Worthington paid for it, about $60 an acre, instead of $15. In the meantime, the new owner has begun to take gravel from a hillside on the old place, gravel that is selling to the county for road work. Here is something Arthur never thought of.

Still Loyal to Klan.

Worthington in telling of his klan activities, said in a recent letter:

"My membership was in the klan because the klan stands for law, order, and decency. I joined the klan because some of the best people in Birmingham, practically all the officials were members. Some of these same officials now are trying to play politics and trying to make themselves great partiots.

Some of these officials have gone out on raiding parties that I would not even consent to go on or have anything to do with. At the proper time I can give names and will do so. No, I am still loyal to the constitution of the klan as written."

FLOGGING OF WHITE WOMAN SET NEXT ON DOCKET FOR MONDAY

Case Of Lashing Of Mrs. Fannie Daniel Will Be Aired; Defendant Charged With Being in Masked, Robed Band

GREGORY ACQUITTED AFTER ALL-NIGHT SESSION OF JURY

Court Recessed By Agreement Of Lawyers; McCall Silent On Gregory Verdict

Elmer, alias "Shorty" Arant, of Georgiana, will be the next defendant called in the Crenshaw County flogging trials now in progress at Luverne, it was announced here last night by Atty. Gen. McCall.

Shelby Gregory, young Crenshaw County farmer, who was tried first of the Crenshaw County defendants, on

charges of kidnaping in connection with the flogging of Annie Mae Simmons, negro woman, in July, 1925, was acquitted by the jury which returned a verdict early yesterday morning after an all-night deliberation.

Court was recessed until Monday, when Arant's trial will begin, by agreement yesterday morning between State and defense counsel.

Atty. Gen. McCall had no statement to make last night on the Gregory verdict.

Arant is under indictment for taking part in the flogging of Mrs. Fannie Clements Daniel, young Crenshaw County white woman, last February. According to Mrs. Daniel's account of the assault some time previous to the flogging, as related to a representative of The Advertiser a few weeks ago, men wearing the masks and robes of the Ku Klux Klan, came to her home and warned her not to go with a certain man. She denied that she had gone with him she said.

Some months later, she said, after she and her mother had retired for the night, there came a knock at the door. Her mother answered the knock, opening the upper half of the door and leaving the lower half locked. Seeing a number of masked and robed figures outside, she resisted their attempts to enter and one of them said: "Let us in, we're not going to do you any harm." When she still resisted, there was a surge against the lower half of the door from the outside. It gave way, and a swarm of hooded figures poured into the house.

According to Mrs. Daniel, the intruders said they were looking for the man she had been warned not to go with, and the interior of the dwelling was ransacked, the unwelcome visitors even going into the room where Mrs. Daniel was in her night apparel. Not finding the man, she says, they then proposed to go elsewhere and look for him, taking her with them. She told them she would have to dress, she states, and received the answer that she could wrap a blanket about her, but after some expostulation, she won her point and was permitted to dress, a number of the visitors remaining in the room while she put her clothing on behind a door.

Nearly All Klansmen.

After dressing she walked to the front part of the house, she says, where the marauders were gathered. All but three or four were wearing the robes and masks of the Klan, she states. While she had been dressing, the intruders, it appears, changed their minds about going elsewhere to look for the man. They took her to her bedroom in the rear of the house, Mrs. Daniel claims, ladi her across the bed there and proceeded to beat her.

She stated she screamed when the first blow was struck her, but after that uttered no outcry. She does not know how many lashes were delivered, she states. Indentations in the bedding where she was whipped indicated, it is stated, that the flogging was administered with a strap.

Following the flogging she proceeded to the front of the house where some of the hooded figures were still gathered, she said, and when she again protested she had not gone with the man she was accused of going with, one of the masked figures reached out a hand and slapped her across the face.

It is in connection with this flogging that Arant was indicted. He will go on trial in Luverne, Monday morning.

By HAROLD W. STEPHENS,
Staff Correspondent.

LUVERNE, ALA., Nov. 24.—Shelby Gregory, the first defendant tried in the Crenshaw County cases, was acquitted by the jury which returned its verdict at 9:45 o'clock Thursday morning. A few minutes earlier had been announced that trial of th pending cases, through agreement o attorneys, would not be resumed until 10 o'clock Monday morning.

The verdict of the jury was returned before a large crowd which had assembled in the court room as soon as word reached the street that a report was about to be made. There was no demonstration.

The verdict terminated a trial upon which the eyes of the State of Alabama and a large part of the entire country were focused, and which, as one of the cases growing out of Attorney General Charlie C. McCall's Ku Klux Klan investigations, had been anticipated with interest since the special Grand Jury of Crenshaw County returned 102 indictments six weeks ago.

Case Bitterly Fought.

In every phase of the three days which the trial consumed the case was bitterly fought by opposing counsel, among whom were some of the best legal talent of the State. The prosecution was represented by Attorney General McCall; Assistant Attorney General John J. Haynes and Thomas E. Knight, Jr.; Circuit Solicitor Calvin Poole, and Attorney Frank S. Bricken, of Luverne.

The defense was represented by Horace Wilkerson, of Birmingham; W. E. Lee, of Dothan; and W. H. Stoddard, of Luverne. Dempsey Powell, of the law firm of Powell and Hamilton, of Greenville, who represents several of the defendants in the Crenshaw County cases who reside in Butler County, sat with the defense attorneys throughout the trial.

The case attracted great interest in Luverne For three days the tranquil little town of 2,000 inhabitants, wholly unused to such notoriety, became the crucible in which the principal political forces of the State met in combat.

Notable figures were about the streets: Atty. Gen. McCall; Chief Law Enforcement Officer Walter K. McAdory; Bibb Mills, superintendent of the Alabama Anti-Saloon League; James Esdale, grand dragon of the Ku Klux Klan of Alabama; George H. Thigpen, state superintendent of insurance and reputed Klan official; Cecil Davis, reputed Klan official and many others.

And the citizens of Luverne and Crenshaw County, loitering about the streets or standing long hours in the crowded courtroom, speculating their fill on each. In the interim they kept a watchful eye open for a sight of Gov. Bibb Graves, who had been subpoenaed as a witness by the state.

Nor were the citizens of Luverne and Crenshaw County alone in their observations and speculations. Their neighbors from Butler, Pike, Covington, Coffee and Montgomery Counties had assembled with them, to gather first hand information on what all the things they had heard were about.

Klan Not In Case.

The Ku Klux Klan, so far as they learned from the evidence, did not enter into the affair. Four of the five men who were said to have been implicated in the affair, and of whom one was acquitted, were said to be Klansmen. Beyond that, and the fact that many witnesses, both for the state and defense were said to be Klansmen, no word of the Klan entered into the testimony.

The affair was one where five unmasked and unrobed men in broad daylight, had taken a negro woman into a cornfield and beaten her. The state's theory was that the offense constituted a kidnaping, within the meaning of the statute. They charged that Shelby Gregory was one of the men, and that he had unlawfully or forcibly seized or inveigled the woman with intent to imprison her or to take her from the state.

The verdict of the jury was a decision that the state had not proved that Shelby Gregory had seized the woman with intent to imprison her or to take her from the state. No other issue was decided.

The Hidden Issues.

In the courtroom the issues were clear cut. But under the current of ordinary courtroom procedure, hinging about whether Shelby Gregory was one of the men in the affair, or whether, if he were, the offense constituted kidnaping, another force was moving which, occasionally in the court and constantly on streets, broke through to the surface.

The trial had a political aspect. The crowds watching the state and defense attorneys in the courtroom and the notable figures in the state move about the street, found cause again for speculation.

The fact that Chief State Law Enforcement Officer McAdory stopped at the hotel at which the defense attorneys stopped occasioned speculation.

That James Esdale was seen at the same hotel occasioned further speculation.

That the argument of Atty. W. E. Lee before the jury was directed largely at Atty. Gen. McCall's coming into the county was the cause for speculation.

That Circuit Solicitor Calvin Poole stated that without the attorney general's aid he could not obtain indictments in the cases was a cause for speculation.

That Atty. W. H. Stoddard argued to the jury that the case was one where a negro had been whipped and as such of no consequence, was a cause for speculation.

That an attack on the alleged methods of the attorney general should be launched by the defense was a cause for speculation.

That the defense should put State Law Enforcement Officer Clayton on the stand to attempt to impeach the testimony of State Law Enforcement Officer A. L. Kimbrough, who worked under the attorney general, was a cause for speculation.

Why the various notables had been subpoenaed as witnesses in affairs with which they could have no possible direct connection was a cause for speculation.

And what Atty. Gen. McCall will do next week when cases involving alleged offenses by alleged masked and hooded members of the Ku Klux Klan come up for trial, is the big final question which those who saw and heard the trial in Luverne are pondering.

THE KLAN'S DISPLEASURE

The Klannish Andalusia Star, in its current number, has two editorials of special interest, one a puff for the sailor-statesman from LaFayette, Ala., the other an attack on Attorney-General Charlie McCall, the expert diagnostician.

Of the great leader of Tomocracy, The Star says the sailor boy will stay in the United States Senate as long as he lives.

As for McCall, The Star charges him with "inconsistency" in his views of the Klan, from which he recently resigned. It regards McCall as a mere publicity-seeker and a dupe of the Al Smith interests; it declares that he used the Klan to get into power, and then, safely in office, threw the Klan overboard, and finally offers the extraordinary suggestion that McCall should resign as Attorney-General. Here it is in The Star's own words:

> But since Mr. McCall has been gravitating away from the order to whom he owes the office which he now holds, and since in his last spectacular performance he with a single stroke of his typewriter purges himself of all connection with the Klan, we cannot help but wonder what line of reasoning he pursued that would make him feel justified in repudiating the Klan and at the same time continue to hold the lucrative position which was given him by that order, evidently more on the fact that he made the race as a Klansman and sought and obtained the approval and endorsement of the Klan leadership in the State and hrough this leadership the support of the rank and file of the membership, than on any particular fitness or qualification in a legal way that his record hitherto had shown.

The 37 men against whom the Crenshaw county grand jury recently returned 102 indictments, will roar approval to this hint to McCall that he should also resign as Attorney-General. Ditto, the Jefferson county gang now under indictment, ditto those gallant spirits from Tarrant City who on keeping their rendezvous with McCall and Judge Steele at Oneonta were sent to the penitentiary for their pains. The unidentified participants in the 17 brutal floggings by the Klan in Randolph county (see report of the Randolph county grand jury) would join in the applause but for the risk of betrayal that would attend so indiscreet a demonstration. Many citizens of Talladega county also approve the suggestion that McCall should have resigned twice. In fact, in Klan circles everywhere there is a growing feeling that McCall should resign his office, but The Andalusia Star, we believe, is the first to make public such a suggestion, even as it is the first publicly to condemn him for his uncomplimentary remarks about this "menace to constituted authority" in Ala-bama!

"DRIVE KLAN OUT OF ALA.," IS THE CRY

Former Supporter of Order Turns Against It. Appeal For Its Disbandment In State

MONTGOMERY, Ala., Nov. 12—A public appeal to Governor Bibb Graves to disband the Ku Klux Klan in Alabama was made by John H. Bankhead, son of the late Senator Bankhead and himself, a candidate for the Senate in the Democratic primary last year.

The Governor would thus "bring peace and harmony to a divided and disturbed citizenship and would re-establish the supremacy of the Constitution and the laws of our State," Bankhead says..

He declares that a deplorable condition has been reached in Alabama and that since the last election a reign of hooded outlawry has prevailed in many sections of the State. The most startling development, he says, is the statement by the Attorney General that leaders of the Klan are conspiring to violate the law and are obstructing the administration of justice.

Ku Klux Klan - 1927

Alabama

Thirteen Floggings Under Probe By Crenshaw County Grand Jur

By HAROLD STEVENS
Staff Correspondent

LUVERNE, ALA., Oct. 13.—Thirteen alleged floggings, attacks, and other outrages are under investigation by the Crenshaw county grand jury, it was learned Thursday. They include a flogging of a white woman, an armed attack upon the home of another, a flogging of a white man, a flogging of a negro woman which is said to have resulted in her death, and ten floggings and attacks upon different negro men. One negro man was whipped three times.

Miss Fannie Clements, who is now Mrs. Fannie [illegible] Daniel, was whipped in her bed by a band of masked men last February.

The band of 12 masked men made a night attack upon the home of Mrs. C. V. Bozeman, five miles from Luverne, in November of 1925. Mrs. Bozeman, assisted by her sister, Mrs. Sallie Thomlin, fought off the attackers. At least one of them was wounded in the battle in which a number of shots were fired. Travis Bozeman was severely beaten by a band of masked men in the latter part of July, 1926.

Annie Mae Simmons, a negro woman, is alleged to have died from a beating given her by five unmasked white men. One man, Rufus Welch, is under arrest charged with murder in connection with her death.

Three whippings, one in October of 1925, and two on the same day in October, 1926, were given a negro, Huey Peterson.

Other negro men who were attacked are: Hillery Miller, Tank Lowery, Hamp Kendrick, Jack Payne, Robert McKinnon, Grant Lowery, Huston Peterson.

Witnesses who went before the grand jury today are: J. W. Stewart, R. E. Wilkerson, Ab Bush Young Norman, Will Mitchell, Lee Davis, S. E. Traynum, L. H. Gipson, Jim Holliday, J. H. Pollard John Gill, Willie Welch, Huey Peterson and wife, Grant Lowery Jesse Wolf, Angus Wilcox, Houston Peterson, Tank Lowery, Lewis Segrest, Jim Butler, and Arthur Whittaker.

100 INDICTMENTS ARE EXPECTED

Alabama Grand Jury True Bills To Result in 100 Convictions, McCall Asserts.

GRAND DRAGON DOESN'T APPEAR

Esdale Ordered Before Probe in Crenshaw County Missing; Cyclops Also Not Present.

Luverne, Ala., October 12.—(AP)—More than 100 indictments that will result in "at least 100 convictions and prison sentences" will be returned by the special grand jury investigating masked floggings in Crenshaw county, Attorney General Charlie C. McCall said today.

The jury probably will report to Judge A. E. Gamble tomorrow, the attorney general indicated.

Today's session of the grand jury was marked by the appearance of four men said to have been members of whipping parties in Crenshaw county. J. P. Williamson, Shelby Gregory and Maxie and Phaxton Miller were taken into custody in Montgomery and brought to Luverne this morning to testify before the grand jury.

Mr. McCall would not verify a report that the four men confessed their part in a series of Crenshaw county floggings and turned state's evidence, implicating other persons in connection with masked violence.

Klan Head Absent.

James Esdale, grand dragon of the Ku Klux Klan in Alabama, whom Mr. McCall said had been summoned to appear before the jury today, failed to appear. The attorney general said he understood Esdale was in Chicago. Inquiry at his offices in Birmingham failed to result in definite information as to his whereabouts.

The Rev. L. A. Nalls, a Baptist minister, said to be an exalted cyclops, who had been summoned with the klan head, also failed to put in an appearance. A warrant charging him with participating in the floggings of Miss Fannie Clements has been sworn out, and is awaiting service.

Several other witnesses were called before the jury today.

Seeks Felony Charges.

It is learned that McCall will endeavor to obtain conviction on felony charges. Recent state legislation makes the misdemeanor of assault and battery a felony when committed by masked persons. A majority of the warrants sworn out thus far, Mr. McCall said, charge felony, although in a few instances he expected to obtain kidnaping indictments.

Twenty-four persons were called before the jury yesterday. Among them was the Rev. Earl Hotalen, said to be an imperial lecturer of the klan, who has conducted a series of lectures recently throughout Alabama.

ANTI-FLOGGING BILL SIGNED BY GRAVES

Assault While Masked Now Prison Offense; Other Measures Approved

The anti-flogging bill, adopted by the legislature after the house had refused to pass a substitute which would also prohibit the wearing of masks in public, was signed by Governor Bibb Graves Saturday. The bill makes the commission of an assault while in mask a felony. Before it became a law the offense was merely a misdemeanor.

Other bills signed by the governor were:

House bill 173, for the relief of Perry J. Coyle of Jefferson.

House bill 1035, submitting a constitutional amendment for a one-tenth of one per cent tax for Jefferson county for the maintenance of charity hospital.

House bill 765, for refunding money paid for drainage district bonds under invalid legislation.

Senate bill 112, to amend sections 3289-3294 inclusive of the code.

Senate bill 519, making an appropriation to erect an Alabama monument at Gettysburg.

Senate bill 171, making appropriation to provide for an Alabama room in the Confederate memorial building at Richmond.

Senate bill 185, to abolish the branch agricultural experiment station near Uniontown.

Senate bill 221, to amend section 5523 of the code.

Senate bill 506, exempting property used for educational purposes from taxation.

Senate bill 513, to amend section 3005 of the code.

Senate bill 415, to amend section 9877-9880 of the code inclusive.

Senate bill 384, establishing a court of common pleas in Calhoun county.

House bill 275, amending section 4559 of the code.

House bill 277, amending section 4569 of the code.

House bill 541, prescribing what documents shall be admitted for filing in the offices of the judges of probate of the various counties of Alabama.

House bill 60, making an appropriation to the state training school for girls.

House bill 488, further regulating the trial of causes.

House bill 770, authorizing the payment of taxes in litigation refunding.

House bill 405, to further define the business of mutual aid, benefit and industrial insurance companies.

House bill 1142, creating a water works commission for Phenix City.

House bill 1028, making the commission of an assault while in mask a felony.

House bill 1013, creating the office of county solicitor for Lawrence county.

Senate bill 589, dividing Coffee county into four commissioners districts.

House bill 195, for the relief of the widow and child of Z. B. Talley.

Senate bill 110, to amend sections 1754, 1757, 1760 and 1894 of the code.

House bill 30, making an appropriation to the Alabama Boys Industrial school.

Senate bill 450, to repeal section 2999 of the code.

House bill 15, to protect purchasers of real property.

Senate bill 196, for the maintenance and care of the poor.

House bill 1039, to establish a juvenile court in counties of from 95,000 to 175,000 population.

GOVERNOR IS READY TO TESTIFY WHEN COURT MAKES CALL

Shelby Gregory Faces Ordea For Kidnaping in Flogging Of Annie Simmons; Identified By Witnesses

JURORS RIGIDLY QUIZZED BY STATE AND DEFENSE

Wilkinson Announces Ready Instead Of Asking Postponement As Planned

Gov. Bibb Graves is ready to go before the Crenshaw Circuit Court in answer to a subpoena served on him Saturday, whenever the court calls upon him to testify. This announcement was made yesterday at the state executive department.

The governor is one of many who have been summoned to offer testimony in connection with the trial of flogging cases now in progress at Luverne. It became known yesterday that the subpoena requiring the appearance of the governor in the Crenshaw Circuit Court, Monday, was handed to him Saturday.

On the same day, according to his private secretary, John S. Tilley, the governor saw Circuit Judge A. E. Gamble, in Montgomery. During the course of a conversation with Judge Gamble, who is presiding at the Crenshaw trials, Mr. Tilley said, the governor said he would like to arrange to come to Luverne whenever he is called to testify. Stating, however, rather not go to Luverne and wait around there for an indefinite period, to be called.

Judge Gamble, he said, told the governor he would be glad to make this arrangement and advised Gov. Graves that he would be called upon when he is needed.

Mr. Tilley further stated, that when Gov. Graves left yesterday during the forenoon to attend the dedication exercises of Jordan Dam, at Lock 18, he gave explicit instructions where he could be reached by telephone at all hours during the day, and asked Mr. Tilley to call him at once should his presence be required at Luverne.

J. Johnston Moore, well known Montgomery druggist, reputed Ku Klux Klan official, and who is conceded to have had the support of the klan in his campaign for the office of mayor of Montgomery last May, was also subpoenaed to appear before the Crenshaw Circuit Court to testify yesterday. He left early Monday morning for Luverne, despite the fact that he was suffering severely from a badly infected foot.

Trials were begun in Luverne yesterday, of a total of 34 defendants who are under indictment for participation in a long series of lashings administered to citizens in Crenshaw County by masked and hooded mobs.

By HAROLD STEPHENS
Staff Correspondent

LUVERNE, ALA., Nov. 21.—Shelby Gregory, young Crenshaw County farmer, went on trial Monday at the Crenshaw County courthouse shortly after 2 p.m., under an indictment charging him with kidnaping Annie Mae Simmons, negro woman, in July, 1925.

The state won the first tilt in the trial when Judge A. E. Gamble overruled demurrers filed by the defendant and argued for him by Horace G. Wilkinson, Birmingham attorney, over a period of 35 minutes.

Only one witness, Lee Henderson, a negro, was introduced by the state before the court adjourned at 5:20 p.m. to reconvene again at 8:30 a.m., Tuesday.

Gov. Bibb Graves, who has been subpoenaed as a witness by the state in the flogging trials, did not appear in Luverne Monday. Atty. Gen. Charlie C. McCall stated that the case in which the governor was a witness would not be called until later in the week and that the governor would be notified shortly before his presence was required in order that he might not lose time from his office.

WITNESSES ASSERT GREGORY ADMITTED PART IN FLOGGING

Testimony Inplicates Thaxton And Maxie Miller; Took Woman To Field And Beat Her With Shingles

PLOWHAND NEAR SCENE WITNESSED BEATING

Men Were Unmasked; Defense Attacks Confession; Intimates Reward Promised

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Gregory, according to the testimony of state witnesses, made this alleged confession in the Montgomery County Jail. The admission by Judge A. E. Gamble of Gregory's alleged confession as evidence followed a bitter controversy between Attorney General Charlie C. McCall, who is leading the prosecution and defense attorneys.

A prior attempt by state to introduce in evidence a transcript, sworn to by the court stenographer, of what Gregory had testified before the Grand Jury of Crenshaw County, was defeated when Judge Gamble ruled that the statements to the Grand Jury which were in the light of a confession, were not voluntarily made.

Attorney General McCall then placed A. L. Kimbrough, state law enforcement officer, on the stand. Kimbrough testified that he had heard Gregory make a statement that he was implicated in the flogging of the Simmons woman, and the statement had been made voluntarily and without threats or promise of reward. Defense attorneys attacked the alleged voluntary nature of the confession.

A move to attack the alleged confession of Gregory probably will be made by defense attorneys tomorrow.

M. A. Sealey and J. E. Wall, wardens of the Montgomery County jail in which Gregory was confined at the time he is said to have made the alleged confession, are subpoenaed for defense witnesses in the case.

Attorney Will Lee, of the defense, made a strong attempt today to show that the confession was induced by promise of immunity by Atty. Gen. Charlie C. McCall.

Last Through Next Week

The fact that the Crenshaw County flogging cases will last through next week became known today when Judge Gamble announced he would draw another jury for the week this Thursday or Friday.

Only three witnesses for the defense were examined today. Dr. P. V. Spear, and Dr. John Kendrick, both of Greenville, testified they examined Annie Mae Simmons in 1926, approximately a year after the alleged flogging, and at that time there were no scars or wounds upon her body. They said, however, that they made no direct examination for such wounds or scars. The woman was in atubercular condition at that time, they said, and it was for that they examined her. They also testified that the woman subsequently died of tuberculosis.

An attempt to prove an alibi was made by the defense through G. E. Welch, father-in-law of Shelby Gregory. Mr. Welch testified that on the day when the flogging was supposed to have been committed he was with the five men who are said to have whipped the woman. He stated that they ate some watermelons together and were with each other for some time.

Mr. Welch, however, very much confused as to the time when they ate the watermelon during that cross-examination which was conducted by Atty. Gen. McCall.

In Kimbrough's testimony he alleged that Gregory said that on the day of the flogging he went to his father-in-law's home after dinner and later accepted the invitation of two men in an automobile to "get in and ride around some." Later, he said, they met Thaxton Miller and Maxie Miller, two other defendants, who were in an automobile.

They went, Gregory said, according to Kimbrough, to the home of a negro, a brother-in-law of Annie Mae Simmons, named Jean Gould. Thaxton Miller, it was said, did the talking, and asked for Annie Mae Simmons. Not finding her, Kimbrough said Gregory told him, they went to the home of Carlie Pollard, and some one said:

"There she is, on the front porch."

Kimbrough said Gregory told him "one of the Millers" got the negro woman and "they" put her in the car on the back seat, and rode to the edge of a corn patch on the place of Jean Gould, about a half mile away.

Beat Her With Shingles.

According to Kimbrough's version of Gregory's statement, the men took the woman out of the car, into the corn field and laid her down over a terrace and then the men took turns beating her with shingles. When they were through, Kimbrough said Gregory told him, the woman was told she had not been conducting herself properly, and they told her, "Don't let the sun set on you here."

Another state's witness, Z. D. Nixon, a negro, testified he was pulling fodder in a field about 300 yards from the scene of the lashing and he saw it all happen.

Governor Bibb Graves, summoned by Attorney General McCall as a witness in the Luverne trials, did not appear today. He has made an arrangement with the Crenshaw County solicitor, which, it appears, has the approval of McCall, that he will come to Luverne in an automobile, whenever he is wanted to testify. The Governor has been ill with influenza, and on Monday made an address at the dedication of an Alabama Power Company project at Wetumpka, Ala., his first public appearance in several days.

Belle Gould, a sister of the Simmons woman, was a State witness early in the day. She said her sister screamed when the men took her from the Gould home, and that when she returned she "had bruises on her

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Atty. Gen. McCall, Chief Law Enforcement Officer Walter K. McAdory Reidy Guy, secretary to Mr. McAdory and State Law Enforcement Officer Clayton have been subpoenaed as witnesses for the defense in the Shelby Gregory case.

Mr. McAdory's subpoena requires him to bring into court all affidavits and memoranda of testimony taken by him or under his direction in his recent investigation of the alleged intimidation of witnesses in Crenshaw County This means, Atty. Gen. McCall stated that the defense will have opportunity to use Mr. McAdory's report before he himself (McCall) has seen it.

Declined to Release Report

Mr. McCall states that Gov. Bibb Graves, in a letter written last Friday, declined to communicate to him the report which Mr. McAdory made until after the present trial was over.

Attorney General McCall was afterwards advised by Governor Graves, in a letter written last Saturday by John S. Tilley, secretary to the governor, that a reward would be offered for the Rev. L. A. Nalls, if he did not show up for trial at the present term of court.

Lee Henderson, negro, the only witness examined Monday, told of a visit made to his home in July, 1925. They came up to his house in an open car, he related and several of them, coming into the yard, took Annie Mae Simmons, negro woman, from the front porch, and placing her in the automobile, drove away. He identified the men as Shelby Gregory, Thaxton Miller, Maxie Miller, Luther Holley and Rufus Welch.

Thaxton Miller, he said, had a pistol in his hand and came up on the front porch, he inquired which one was Annie Mae Simmons the witness said.

"Come on," Henderson said Miller said, "Get in the car before we have to put you in."

"White folks, what have I done?" Henderson said the Simmons woman questioned.

"That's all right what you've done, come on and get in the car," was the reply given her, according to the testimony.

The Simmons woman, the witness stated, walked down the steps and followed by the men went to the automobile which she entered, and was driven away.

Severe Cross Examination

Henderson underwent a severe cross examination by Horace Wilkinson but he still remained substantially unshaken.

In organizing the jury, the jurors were asked, at the request of the state, if they were members of the Ku Klux Klan. They were also asked if they had ever been members of the klan.

Three of them, one of whom, Howell T. Bentley, was a member of the jury trying the case, admitted that they had been klansmen at some prior time.

The jurors were also asked, at the request of the defense, if they subscribed to or read any daily papers of the state, and if they did so if they had been prejudiced in their minds as to the Crenshaw County floggings. The defense also asked the jurors if they had prejudice against the Ku Klux Klan as an organization.

The jurors trying the case are Ellie E. Stringer, farmer; Lucerne C. Robbins, farmer; Howell T. Dudley, oil dealer,; Mark Adams, farmer; Edgar A. Rowell, farmer; John A. Butts, farmer; Levi Abraham King, farmer; Grover G. Norsworth, farmer; Ollie Gallops, farmer, Clifford B. Pitts, farmer, Joe Jones, farmer; and N. Sipper, farmer.

George A. Thigpen, state insurance commissioner, and reputed great Titan of the Southern Province, Luther Davis reputed former great Titan of the Southern Providence and J. Johnston Moore, reputed Exalted Cyclops of the Montgomery Klavern, all of whom have been summoned as witnesses, were present in court.

The first case called when court convened at 1:30 p.m. Monday was that of Elmer Arant.

He was indicted as Rod, alias 'Shorty" Arant and entered a plea of misnomer. The case was passed for the time being and those of Shelby Gregory and Rufus Welch were called. Gregory entered a plea of not guilty. A few witnesses in the latter two cases were absent and they were also passed. The state lawyers took a few minutes to confer and then selected the Shelby Gregory case for trial.

Among the more prominent men indicted for complicity in masked violence in the county is Ira B. Thompson, prominent Luverne attorney and reputed exalted cyclops of the Luverne klavern of the Ku Klux Klan.

Other men who will be tried are:

Dewey Bolling, Dave Bolling, Press Skipper, Cue Bozeman, W. H. Stallings, Shelby Gregory, Thaxton Miller, Maxie Miller, Walton Wolf, Rufus Welch, Elmer Hill, Wilfred Morgan, Zallie Kelly, Charlie Helms, Roy Helms, J. G. Williamson, I. D. Hawkins, Andrew Cubstead, George Brunson, Oscar Edge, Luther Holley, Dave Holland, Walter Matthews, Theodore Marsh, Jack Jones, Mack Walton. Worth Thomas, Joe Thomas, Glen Moody, Will Grayson, S E. Gibbons and Elmer Arant.

Atty. Gen. Charlie C. McCall, of Alabama, is personally directing the prosecution of the men.

AGE-HERALD
BIRMINGHAM, ALA.

SEP 18 1927

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The failure of the Alabama Legislature to take due action against night-riding and the use of masks and hoods in the perpetration of crimes against the citizen—terrorizing, flogging and lynching people having been familiar pastimes during the past year since the present administration got into power—is going to bear fruit in encouraging lawlessness, violence and bloodshed, if the stated reaction of the people against present conditions means anything. "The failure of Gov. Graves to demand and secure the passage of an act against 'flogging' by masked bands," says a leading newspaper of that state, "means that the people of Alabama will have to constitute themselves, each, an armed outlaw for self-protection."

It is inconceivable that the self-respecting people of a great state like Alabama are going to cringingly submit to the menace of organized mobs, traveling about the state hidden by masks and armed to "the teeth," bent on inflicting corporal punishment—if not death—upon such of their fellow citizens as may have come, for whatever reason, under their displeasure or personal spite. When courts and constituted authorities become the practical protectors of armed bandits and irresponsible lynchers and sluggers, then, it would seem the right of 'self-defense" may be invoked, and any individual having reason to feel for his personal safety will be authorized to carry his own means of protection handily about his person. Such a condition smacks of anarchy, to be sure; but then masks, night-marauding, lynching and flogging are the implements of anarchy, and anarchy can only be cured by a counter-irritant. Alabamians are going to free themselves of this numbing incubus, if not now, later—for the Graves nightmare must pass.—Chattanooga Times.

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AGE-HERALD
BIRMINGHAM, ALA.

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Ku Klux Klan - 1927

Alabama

BAPTISTS REPUDIATE MOB VIOLENCE IN STATE; AL SMITH IS DENOUNCED

Convention Adopts Report of Service Body; Branscomb Scores Wets· ps On Education Committee R. ng Session

BIRMINGHAM, ALA., Nov. 17.—S[pecial to] the Advertiser.—The Alabama Baptist Convention today went on [record] as repudiating the masked outrages throughout the state, and heard [a] strong denunciation of Al Smith and so-called "wet" papers branded as "enemies of the people" by Dr. L. O. Branscomb, president of the Anti-Saloon League.

Although Alabama has kept unbroken her record of no deaths by lynching so far this year, "in recent months our state has been disgraced by revelations of organized lawlessness on a scale more widespread than was ever known before" is the declaration set forth in the report of the social service commission adopted at the final session of the convention today.

"We believe that the Christian men and women of this state must repudiate publicly and wherever possible all acts of masked violence and must openly uphold the delegated peace officers among us," the report continues. "Punishment inflicted outside of the law is anarchy, a flagrant and dangerous denial of all law."

Dr. Branscomb, in his address named papers of St. Louis, Detroit and other cities and the policy of the Birmingham News, Birmingham Age-Herald and The Montgomery Advertiser were deplored by the speaker.

Denounces Al Smith

He denounced Al Smith, declaring that if he is elected to the presidency it will be "a stab to the Constitution."

"We must stop voting for any man who is wet until the question is fully settled and law observance is completely brought about," he said. "We can't trust the wets. They do not keep faith with the pepole.

"Will Baptists of Alabama vote for Al Smith?" he shouted.

"No"—vehemently declared scores of delegates from all parts of the house.

The closing day of the one hundred and sixth annual session of the state convention was the busiest and stormiest of the session. Several matters, including prohibition, brought about heated discussion. Appointments of committees and final address of the president, D. C. Oxford, of Oxford, were features of the final session.

The report of the social service committee was made by Dean P. P. Burns, of Howard College, and was unanimously adopted by the convention. The report covered topics on obscene and immoral literature, marriage and divorce, mob violence, gambling, observance and stricter enforcement of prohibition laws.

"Thus far in the year 1927," the report read in part, "Alabama has kept unbroken her fine record of no death by lynching. That negative statement is, fortunately, as far as the committee can go in congratulating our state. It is one thing to say there have been no lynchings of the old sort. It would be another to declare that Alabama has been free from mob violence.

"In recent months our state has been disgraced by revelations of organized lawlessness on a scale more widespread than was ever known before. No lynchings perhaps, but the lashings are just as outrageous in their flaunting of personal rights and in their defiance of established institutions of justice.

Must Repudiate Violence

"We believe that the Christian men and women of this state must repudiate publicly and wherever possible all acts of masked violence and must openly uphold the openly delegated peace officers among us. Punishment inflicted outside the law is anarchy, a flagrant and dangerous denial of all law."

Ku Klux Klan - 1927

Alabama

Anniston Ala., Star

AUG 2 [illegible]

Letters to the Editor

Mr. McCary Discusses the Old Klan and the New Order

To The Anniston Star:

A thing may be too small for the masses to notice, or it may be too large for the masses to grasp. This, it seems to me, is the difference between the original and the present "Invisible Empire, Knights of The Ku Klux Klan.

There are some things this generation doesn't know, and in this case there is no particular reason why they should be thankful for their ignorance.

The most exalted principle which the citizens of America have ever combined themselves to support, in war or in peace, in whole, or in part, was involved in the organization and operation of the first Klan. This principle and its object was to be the absolute and eternal divorce of the white man and the negro from political and sexual contact—their failure to accomplish the desired result will yet be regarded as the greatest tragedy in American history.

The Klan was organized to correct a condition brought about by the five acts of congress known as The Reconstruction Acts, which operated to secure six results: (1) Declared insurrection to exist in eleven southern states. (2) Transformed these states into military districts. (3) Deprived these states of representative honors in congress. (4) Suspended the governments and civil functions of those states. (5) Disfranchised the white citizens of those states who were competent to vote in both state and national elections. (6) Enfranchised the negroes and mongrels of the South, who were but shortly removed from naked, driveling paganism and savagery, who had just been liberated by the thitreenth amendment, and transformed them into full citizens with power, not only to act on the fourteenth amendment, but all other legislation—and it should be remembered that the fourteenth amendment was never legally adopted, and remains to this day a bare-faced fraud—a delusion and a snare. And it should also be remembered that the enemies of the South "put over" the amendments above named to increase the voting power of the republican party, then known as the black republican party.

However, as a result of the fourteenth amendment both houses of congress were filled with negroes from the southern states; at one time the temporary president of the senate was a negro, some of the state legislatures (the bodies with power to make laws), were practically all negroos.

Thus when chaos befell the South, when an amendment was enforced by military rule which had not been legally adopted nor proposed; when southern citizens were disfranchised and their state legislatures were composed of bodies of tyrants and negroes who were "alleged" to have ratified the fourteenth amendment; when the wishes of three states to rescind their ratification were utterly ignored, (New Jersey, Ohio and Oregon); when a negroized congress in its zeal simply passed a resolution declaring the fourteenth amendment adopted, which was a void, unauthorized and unprecedented act—then, dying hope saw a star gleam brightly o'er the gathering gloom—then, from the homes in the southland, in the nightime stepped the Klansmen in white array. Angels had wept and devils had laughed at the spectacle of a continent drenched in the blood of her sons—hemispheres in mourning, the civilized world in tears. And why? The echo answers: Tyrants: Negrophilist!

I am neither a Klansman nor the son of a Klansman, but the Klan was not organized as a "flogging party" nor was the lash to be the emblem thereof. The original Klan question revolved around the question: Shall we win a continent from the red-skin and lose it to the black. Finding that one-fourth of this continent was already passed from Caucasian hands, the present organization was conceived as an effort in regaining Caucasian dominion. In its reorganization the qustion presented itself: Shall this loss be final? Is the Caucasian, who has conquered a continent from the red savage and excluded the yellow pagan, to share it with the black, in whom both traits are fundamental? The new organization gained in momentum as it began to filter through the brain of the masses that there was employed by the U. S. government over 8,000 negroes in various departments, some of them with white girls and young men under their direction—to do their bidding.

It is my opinion that the organization at its fountain head has fallen into the hands of men who have neither the principle nor the intelligence to direct the mighty moral force which fel linto their hands. I hope this opinion will prove unfounded and that the young Klan will follow the example of its sire, and before its influence dies will have completely regained Caucasian supremacy in America.

For three hundred years there has been a tendency in teachers of Christianity to utilize its social tenets to level colors and cultures. Buddhism did this, and so did Mohammedanism. Mohammedanism arose among white people, and for a time threatened to become the religion of the world. But its influence died when its white custodians became lost in the white world by interbreeding with the colored. A gospel of equality of colors as spread by pulpit and press today can but end in free amalgamation. Then, let us examine Christianity as a religion and detect the sources of this critical interpretation—so momentous in final results as to imperil civilization itself—accusations of this kind practically amount to an indictment of Christianity itself.

If no present organization can detect the fallacy of a gospel of equality of colors then we need another one that can, for there are several principles of purity which go to perpetuate a civilization that has been effectually buried. It is time to resurrect them, but not with a lash, but with a sword of truth, whose sheath shall be made up of those virtues which shall insure this world against the outpouring of the wrath of an outraged God.

J. M. McCARY.

2014 Moore Ave., City,
August 22, 1927.

DEFENDANT CLAIMS HE WAS 'FORCED' TO SIGN CONFESSION

Shelby Gregory, Young Crenshaw County Farmer On Trial In Simmons Kidnaping Case Furnishes Thrill

McCALL TAKES STAND TO REFUTE GREGORY'S CHARGES

Attorney General Gives History Of Investigation Into Crenshaw Flogging Cases

By HAROLD STEPHENS
Staff Correspondent

LUVERNE, ALA., Nov. 23.—The fate of Shelby Gregory, young Crenshaw farmer charged with the kidnaping and flogging of Annie Mae Simmons, negro woman, rested tonight in the hands of twelve men. The jurors were locked in at 10:45 o'clock. They received the case at 8:45 o'clock.

The trial came to a sensational close Wednesday afternoon when Atty. Gen. Charlie C. McCall took the stand in rebuttal of charges brought by Gregory, who testified in his own behalf that the confession attributed to him had been induced by maltreatment, threats and promises of reward by the attorney general.

Just what case the state will decide to try tomorrow had not been determined by prosecuting attorneys late last night. 1-24-27

Asst. Atty. Gen. John J. Haynes opened the argument for the state. He told the jurors that the entire state of Alabama was eagerly awaiting their verdict and that the outrages perpetrated in Crenshaw County must be stopped. The only way that this might be done, he declared, was through the courts. Montgomery

W. L. Lee, attorney for the defense, flayed Atty. Gen. McCall in his address to the jury. He declared that Crenshaw County was able to attend to its own criminal matters through Circuit Solicitor Calvin Poole without Atty. Gen. McCall "butting in."

W. H. Stoddard, another defense attorney, also spoke.

The argument for the state was closed by Circuit Solicitor Poole.

Gregory's charges, broad and sweeping, went straight to the root of the attorney general's investigations in the Crenshaw County case. He said he had been cursed and browbeaten, threatened with guns and offered rewards by the attorney general to obtain a statement which, he charged, the attorney general had dictated and which he signed after almost a week of maltreatment in the Montgomery County Jail.

Gregory's first statement in the witness chair was that he had no connection with the flogging of Annie Mae Simmons. He said he and Maxie Miller, Thaxton Miller, Rufus Welch and Luther Holley, the latter three in another car, did go by Lee Henderson's home that afternoon and there they were hailed and stopped by Carlie Pollard, who asked them to take the Simmons woman to the home of her brother-in-law, Jean Gould. He said she got into the other car and was taken by the three men in it to Jean Gould's home and there she got out of the car. The five of them in the two cars went on, he said.

Says McCall Profane

The witness gave a history of his arrest in Luverne and confinement in the Montgomery County Jail. He said he was taken by State Law Enforcement Officer A. L. Kimbrough on the streets of Luverne and carried at once to the St. Charles Hotel, Atty. Gen. McCall there took him in charge and questioned him. The attorney general, he testified, used profanity frequently in talking with him and addressing him.

It was in the hotel room, the witness said, that McCall first suggested a "proposition" to him, but at that time, according to the testimony, he was very hazy about it, telling the witness, "you know damn well what I'm talking about."

The witnesse testified he was then taken to the courthouse where warrants charging him with murder and kidnaping were sworn out. He could not give bond in the first case pending preliminary hearing and in the second case, at Mr. McCall's suggestion, the bond was fixed at $10,000.

From the courthouse he was taken to the jail, where on the porch, he testified, Kimbrough talked with him and advised him to accept McCall's "proposition." From Luverne he was taken to the Montgomery County Jail where he was placed in a cell. Late that night, he said, he was awakened and taken into the kitchen of the jail for questioning by McCall and his "undercover" men.

At about 5:30 o'clock the next morning he was again questioned by the attorney general and his men, this time in the sheriff's office at the jail.

Signs Under Duress

The interviews were continued, he testified, through the week, until, worn to desperation, he signed a statement which the attorney general had dictated.

McCall and his men, he charged, continually used profanity in addressing him and continually threatened him. They told him, he said, they had enough evidence against him to break his neck or send him to the electric chair. They refused, despite his requests, to let him see relatives, friends or attorneys.

The attorney general, he stated, boasted that he had ample power to carry out his threats or to do as he promised. "My expenses are unlimited," and "I can fix you easy for life if you will do what I want you to do," he said the attorney general told him.

What the attorney general wanted him to do was to sign a statement implicating himself and others in an of-

(Continued on Page Seven)

fense of which he had no knowledge and of which he had maintained that he had no knowledge since his arrest, he testified.

On cross-examination, Gregory admitted he had called at the attorney general's office after he was indicted and had asked him for money.

McCall went on the stand a few minutes before 3 o'clock Wednesday afternoon, after Night Jailer S. E. Wall, of the Montgomery County Jail and Deputy Sheriff H. P. Massingill, who assists the night jailor, had testified they were going in and out of the room where the witnesses in the Crenshaw cases were being interrogated and that at no time had they heard cursing or abuse, or threats.

The officers' guns were taken from them in the front office when they went into the jail, they testified.

McCall Testifies

McCall's testimony was given partly in response to questions from Atty. Frank Bricken and partly on his own initiative. During most of the time he sat slightly slouched in his chair, with his arms folded across his chest. He yawned visibly when proceedings were momentarily delayed by arguments of counsel.

His office, he said, was not the first to undertake an investigation of conditions in Crenshaw County. The first, he said was ordered by Gov. Bibb Graves and in response to it several state law enforcement officers were detailed to go to Crenshaw County, after the investigation, he said, he came to Crenshaw County several times and it was on one of these visits that Shelby Gregory was arrested, he testified.

"Mr. Kimbrough came to my room in the hotel one afternoon and told me Shelby Gregory was outside. I told him to let him come in. When he came in, after the door was shut it was not locked. I sat down and looked at him for about five minutes before I said anything," he said.

The attorney general stated that Gregory denied that he was a member of the Ku Klux Klan, that he had never gone out on flogging parties or that he ever went out in masks and robes and whipped any one.

"Why So Nervous"

"What are you so nervous about?" Mr. McCall said he asked him, "are you scared you are caught? Well, I want to tell you, you are caught and you are going to jail.

"So far as cursing him or abusing him in that room, I did not do it," McCall testified.

After a trip to the courthouse in Luverne, at which the next time the attorney general saw him was in the Montgomery County jail, he said.

"Later that night, at about 9:30 or 10 o'clock, I carry no watch, with the permission of the sheriff, I went into the jail and on back to the kitchen, where Gregory was brought to me. Mr. Kimbrough and two of my men were present. They were the only ones who were actually there, although Mr. Wall passed through once.

"Down there, at that time, Gregory said he went with the others to Lee Henderson's house at about 2 o'clock in the afternoon, in July, 1925 and that there, Thaxton Miller and Maxie Miller got out of their car and went to the porch and got the Simmons woman. He said they took her to Mrs. Sallie Welch's place."

The attorney general stated that the interview with the prisoner lasted about two and a half hours. During its course he also asked him "Don't you know that you did something to that woman? Didn't you beat her? Didn't you help beat her?" questions which were answered in the nagative.

Put Himself In Bad

"When you put yourself in that automobile, with the evidence I have got against you, you put yourself where you can't get out," the attorney general testified he told him at the close of the interview.

"Why don't you come clean and tell the truth?" he said he asked Gregory. "I never did curse him. I never did threaten him. I never did abuse him, unless the language I am using now in this court room is abusive. I may have said 'damn it all,' don't you know you can't get by with that? or some such words in talking with him but I did not curse or abuse him," Mr. McCall testified.

Later, McCall stated, the prisoner told him that Rufus Welch knew all about the flogging cases, but that he had married into the familyand if he told, Welch would run him out of the country. He suggested to McCall that he arrest Rufus Welch, saying that if he admitted his connection with the cases, then he, Gregory, would also be in a position to talk, Mr. McCall said.

The prisoner also asked him to get hold of Thaxton Miller and see it he would talk, it was testified. "Look here," McCall said he told him, "I can't run around all night looking for some one to tell all about this before you do."

Gregory Ready To Talk

Subsequently, McCall testified, he was given a note from Gregory by Deputy Sheriff Massingill and that when he saw Gregory, he was told that he was ready to alk.

"I asked Mr. Sealy, the day jailor, where I could get a court reporter. We got one, L. L. Cawthorne and he came down to the jail. We sat in the Sheriff's office and there, with myself, the court reporter and others, I questioned Gregory and as he answered, in his presence, I dictated a narrative account of his statement to the court reporter," McCall said.

The attorney general then quoted the substance to the best of his recollection, of what had been given in the statement. It implicated Gregory and the other four men in the flogging of Annie Mae Simmons.

In the statement, the attorney general stated, Gregory also admitted that he was a member of the Ku Klux Klan and stated that all the rest of the men in the party, with the exception of Maxie Miller, were members of the Ku Klux Klan.

Made No Threats

"At no time," McCall repeated, "were threats made by me or in my presence. Each time entered the jail I left my pistol in the drawer of a table in the first room you enter."

McCall detailed an account of the visit made by Shelby Gregory to his office in the State Capitol.

"It was an October 19, late in the afternoon, just before the office closed. Thaxton Miller was with him. The first thing I knew about it they were in my office. Shelby Gregory said to me: "Mr. McCall ever since I got out of jail they have been coming by my house at all hours of the night. They don't come in, but they come up and park in the yard. I am scared to death. We have got to have some help. They are threatening to jump my bond.

"I called Tom Knight, Kimbrough, and a reporter on The Advertiser, Joe McCoy, into my office to hear them. Fred Gormley, of The Alabama Journal may have been there too. They heard his story and that of Thaxton Miller. Thaxton told me he had to say away from home in the day time and that at night, when he was there, his wife told people who came by that he was not at home. I took shorthand notes of what Thaxton Miller said," McCall testified.

He produced the notes, and from them testified that Thaxton Miller told him that Press Skipper, Elmer Hill, Will Graydon, Ed Welch, Oscar Edge, Walton Wolf, Cue Bozeman and Lee Cannon of Covington County, met him in Luverne on the evening he got out of jail and that some of that group came later to his house and tried to get him to go on a flogging party with them.

"'I didn't go. They weren't going to get me out and bump me off." McCall said Thaxton Miller told him. Thaxton Miller also said the men who called by the house wanted to know what he had testified to before the Crenshaw County Grand Jury, McCall stated.

"I told them I could not help them with money, that I had no means by which I could do this and it would be a bad precedent to set. I told them I would report what they said to the governor and suggest to him that he give an official pronouncement on the intimidation of state witnesses.

Promised No Money.

"I gave them no money. I had promised them no money. Nor had I insinuated at any time that I would give them money.

"I did not tell Gregory I had an unlimited expense account. I did not at any time tell him he could not see counsel. On the contrary, I gave a note to W. H. Stoddard, giving him authority to see the men he asked to see in the Montgomery County Jail." McCall concluded.

On cross examination the defense drew from McCall that the statement by Gregory was given on the attorney general's fourth interview with him, that the note to Stoddard was given at a later date and that Ed Welch, a relative of the defendant, was declined admission to the jail.

An objection to the question, "How much money have you expended in this investigation?" was sustained by Judge Gamble.

The statement, which had been read by W. L. Lee, was handed to McCall and, in reply to a question, he stated it did not contain a statement to the effect that the Simmons woman had been warned after the alleged whipping to get out of the county by sunset as he had stated, to the best of his recollection, on the direct examination. The statement was given in evidence by the defense.

Kimbrough Questioned

An effort to impeach the testimony of A. L. Kimbrough was made by the defense after McCall left the stand. Kimbrough was asked if at the time he had brought the prisoners to Luverne to testify before the Grand Jury, he had not made a statement to State Law Enforcement Officer Clayton in substance as follows: That he had been in the Montgomery County Jail when the prisoners were examined; that one of McCall's undercover men had brought electric batteries in; that one of the defendants had said then that he would talk but had received the reply. 'Damn you, you won't talk to me,' whereupon the defendant had commenced to cry and that then he, Kimbrough, had gone from the room and shut the door because he could not stand it any more.

Kimbrough denied the statement. Officer Clayton, called to the stand, swore that he made it. Kimbrough, again on the stand, denied the statement and said that at the time he was supposed to have made it there were some batteries in the room where the prisoners were and that the conversation was about them but that he had taken no part in it.

Both Klu Klux Members

Both Clayton and Kimbrough testified that they were members of the K. K. K. In rebuttal of evidence submitted early in the day by the defense to the effect that the Fall Grand Jury of 1925 had examined the Simmons affair and that at that time Pollard, who in the trial identified the men who are alleged to have taken the Simmons woman from the Henderson place, testified he knew nothing about it, the state introduced the foreman of the Grand Jury and several of its members, each of whom testified there had been no such investigation by the Grand Jury.

Pollard also swore that he had answered no question as to the matter before the Grand Jury. The Grand Jury docket, which did not show that such an investigation had been made, was also submitted in evidence.

Source Unknown Paper

APR 22 1927

A Dastardly Outrage On Industrious Negro

Arthur Hitt is an esteemed negro who owned a farm of 60 acres in Jefferson county for thirty-five years, a farm which had been in his family for sixty-five years. A month ago some white men offered him $600 for the land, which realtors have estimated has a value of $6,000. The negro declined to sell. A few nights later a band of masked men dragged him from his home, tied him to a tree and beat him unmercifully, inflicting wounds from which he has not yet recovered, ordered him to move out of the community and warned him that if he ever told of the flogging he would be killed. He then sold his farm for a price which netted him about $650.

It has developed that the land was sold to W. J. Worthington, wealthy Birmingham citizen, exalted cyclops of the Avondale Ku Klux Klan, leader of the masked raids on the Chinese restaurants of Birmingham last year and intimate friend of James Esdale, grand dragon of the Ku Klux Klan in Alabama. Worthington has issued a statement that he had nothing to do with the whipping of Hitt, that he paid all the land was worth, but adding that he expects to be indicted by the grand jury of Jefferson county.

The courts of Jefferson must find whether there is any culpability in Worthington's acquirement of this land and it is the court's responsibility to determine the guilt of those who took the law into their own hands in the mistreatment of Arthur Hitt.

But, aside from what may be done by the courts; aside from the efforts of the grand jury now being made to get at the bottom of this affair; aside from the duty devolving upon the law enforcement authorities of the state to bring the guilty to justice, the incident itself is of a character which will do the state incalculable harm. It is probably the most shocking to the public conscience of all the masked crimes which have recently disgraced the state. That Alabama permits to exist in any county a condition where an inoffensive, hard-working negro may be forced by the lash to sacrifice a home and farm which he has owned for thirty-five years and which has been in his family for sixty-five years, is shameful; but it should constitute a ringing challenge to lovers of law and order that such a condition must be ended.

Not only should this negro's property be restored to him, but he should have such reparation and redress as is possible in the courts of white friends of the race who admire thrift and right-living and who resent impositions by the strong upon the weak. Jefferson county's obligation in the matter goes far beyond the borders of the county, for the incident is a reflection upon the whole state, and all Alabama must suffer from the rebuke and abuse which will be directed toward the state for the outrageous conduct of which Arthur Hitt has been the victim. — Montgomery Journal.

Ku Klux Klan – 1927

Alabama

AN IMPUDENT DEMONSTRATION

Klansmen held a jubilee in Birmingham Thursday. They paraded in large numbers. They publicly ridiculed the Attorney-General of this State who has committed the unpardonable sin of attempting to prosecute Klansmen and others who are believed to have committed atrocities against the persons of defenseless people, (including several women and a number of aged and feeble men). 12-17-27

A Birmingham dispatch says the parade is understood to have been given in celebration of the Klan victory in the Crenshaw County trials. We do not know how well founded this belief is, but the report is not difficult to credit. If the report is true, nothing more impudent has occurred in this State in a long time. Nothing so forcefully belies the Klan's profession of devotion to the principle of law and order. Nothing so discredits the Klan's professed desire to see floggers punished and the lawless group within the order exposed and condemned.

FOR KLAVERN AND COUNTRY

The Klannish Andalusia Star rejoices with The Luverne Journal in the acquittal of the first man tried in the Crenshaw County cases. It joins with The Luverne Journal in berating the Attorney-General whose offense consists of an honest effort to punish men who wear masks at night and beat helpless men and women half to death. The Star and The Journal know that such crimes have been committed repeatedly in Alabama. But all of their hot indignation is directed at the chief law officer of this State, who has committed no atrocities upon the persons of Alabamians.

If Jim Esdale's projected scheme to induce the Governor of Alabama to put a quietus on McCall goes through, we take it that the editors of The Andalusia Star and The Luverne Journal will promptly stage torchlight processions, after which they will sit them down and write unctuously of High Moral Ideals and Law Enfo'cement in Alabama.

THREE ARE INDICTED BY JEFFERSON JURY

BIRMINGHAM, ALA., July 16.—Special to The Advertiser.—A county convict warden was under bond here tonight in connection with one of the three flogging cases to which Jefferson county authorities are turning earnest attention.

The warden was R. M. Warren, indicted by the grand jury in connection with the flogging on June 10 of Hugh McSweeny and Pearl Boggs, on the Montgomery highway 10 miles from Birmingham. Warren, in charge of county convict camp at Rosedale, not far from the home and store of McSweeney, was already under bond in connection with the cases on warrants sworn out by McSweeney and Boggs. The indictment was returned today by the grand jury.

The grand jury is also understood to have returned two other indictments in the same flogging, but names of those indicted were withheld pending their arrest.

The flogging, according to the victims, took place at night. The men claim they were called from their beds and seized by a group of about 12 men three automobiles. The "party," the two declare, took them into the woods and beat them until they became unconscious.

McSweeney and Boggs claim that they recognized the warden as the leader of the "flogging party."

The grand jury made its final report Saturday. No indictments are believed to have been returned in the cases of Arthur Hitt, negro, who claims he was forced to sell his property at a fraction of its cost following a visit to his home by a band of masked and robed men who took him into the woods and beat him. Hitt and officers investigating the case appeared before the grand jury, but it was intimated at the office of Solicitor Davis that the probe had not yet advanced to the point where indictments were possible. His office and that of Sheriff Hartsfield are still working on the case.

The grand jury made no extended investigation of the flogging of Jeff Calloway, Oneonta youth, the flogging actually took place in Jefferson county a short distance from the Blount county line. The grand jury of the latter county has been called into special session Monday at Oneonta to listen to reports of the affair from the more than 50 witnesses called to testify, it is understood. Most of the 50 witnesses, according to W. G. Rains, of Gadsden, circuit solicitor, came from Jefferson county. The list, however, it was intimated, does not include James Esdale, Birmingham lawyer, and grand dragon of the klan in Alabama, who was called upon this week by Attorney General Charles McCall to reveal the names of the klansmen from Tarrant City, Birmingham suburb, who attended the church service from which Calloway is said to have been taken and flogged.

Mr. McCall is expected to be in Oneonta personally Monday to direct investigation into the case.

Both the Calloway and the Hitt floggings are blamed upon hooded and robed bands. That of McSweeney and his son-in-law, Boggs, however, was done by unmasked men, among whom both men say they recognized Warden Warren.

The klan is also brought into the Hitt case through W. J. Worthington, cyclops of the Avondale, Birmingham klan, who purchased the Hitt property for $900, when it was appraised for $6,000. Worthington says spite work is back of the investigation.

In making its report to Judge McCoy the grand jury made no recommendations otherwise than that they meet in session again July 26 to complete their reports. Sensational developments are expected when they meet again as it is rumored that several Jefferson county officials will come before the probing body.

ALABAMA'S FLOGGING TRIALS.

The withdrawal of Attorney General McCall from the flogging trials in Alabama, on the ground that he had been handicapped by the lack of cooperation from the state law enforcement bureau, reveals an ugly situation, and one of serious menace, if true.

The attorney general had repeatedly charged that the many floggings in Crenshaw county and in other sections of the state had been administered by hooded night riders who belonged to a secret order that defied law. He charged, with his withdrawal from the trials, that a letter of the grand dragon of the Ku Klux Klan had been unearthed in which was described an effort to bring the attorney general "to his senses," and to stop him from "working up police court cases against the klan."

The alleged letter, as published, commented upon the favorable attitude—toward the klan's view—from "Colonel Graves," who is the governor of the state, and an alleged klansman. 12-1-27

It is almost unthinkable, in the first place, that the attorney general would capitulate to any organization, guilty, as he has charged, or certainly intimated, of flagrantly defying constituted authority.

It is entirely unthinkable that the state's law enforcement bureau would be guilty of aiding and abetting the defense instead of the prosecution, at least to the extent of seeing that full justice is done.

It is entirely unthinkable that the governor of any state should be "friendly" to any lawless element.

It is entirely unthinkable that, in any state, justice may be cheated through secret and fraternal alliances, created for the purpose of setting up invisible government, meting punishments without trials and in defiance of the judiciary system, of controlling jury boxes and of intimidating trial officials.

Either constituted authority must prevail in this country, and in each sovereign state, or a condition of anarchy must necessarily ensue. The night rider who defies law and administers penalty without trial not only strikes at the institutions of government, but terrorizes and thereby becomes a rioter of greater peril to society than the reddest of the radical element.

Alabama's good name is on trial before the nation. It is to be regretted that the attorney general quit the job at Luverne without fighting it through with a courageous defense of the law, and without demanding a showdown as to the very serious allegations made by him.

The law is supreme, and there is a way to prove it. "Giving up" only encourages its violation. It only accentuates the strength of any organized group that may defy it.

ATTORNEY GENERAL CHARGES BAD FAITH TO M'ADORY FORCES

Gives As Reasons 'Utter Lack Of Cooperation From Law Enforcement Officers' And Propaganda Spread

ENFORCEMENT MEN EAGER TO ASSIST DEFENSE, HE SAY

Says Copy Of State Officers' Report To Graves Framed In Luverne Klavern

By HAROLD STEPHENS
Staff Correspondent

LUVERNE, ALA., Nov. 29.—Atty Gen. Charlie C. McCall tonight announced his withdrawal from active participation in the trials of the Crenshaw flogging cases.

The announcement was made at 8:15 o'clock just two hours after the case of Thaxton Miller, charged with kidnaping and flogging Travis Bozeman, had gone to the jury. 11-30-27

The attorney general's withdrawal leaves the disposition of the remaining 31 flogging indictments entirely in the hands of Solicitor Calvin Povey. It could not be learned today just what steps Solicitor Poole will take in the remaining cases or what case, if any, the state will elect to try next.

The attorney general predicated his withdrawal upon a charge of utter lack of cooperation from the state law enforcement bureau; propaganda that has been spread abroad in the county that he was actuated by political motives in taking up the flogging investigations; a statement that he had completed his work and was no longer needed by the circuit solicitor who had requested his assistance; a statement that he was needed in other parts of the state and "for other reasons which should be perfectly apparent to every law abiding citizen in Crenshaw County and I might say, the state at large."

The attorney general made a flat charge that the State Law Enforcement Bureau had, in his opinion, exhibited a "frenzied desire to assist the defense instead of the prosecuting officials."

McAdory Report Found

In line with this the attorney general charged that a copy of the report made by two members of the State Law Enforcement Bureau to Gov. Graves in the initial investigation of the alleged Ku Klux Klan activities in Crenshaw County was found in Capt. Ira B. Thompson's office along with the letter of James Esdale, grand dragon of the Ku Klux Klan in Alabama, which he quoted in a subpoena issued Monday.

Atty. Gen. McCall's statement in full follows:

"Some weeks ago publicity was given to some alleged floggings in Crenshaw County. Immediately following this, the governor of Alabama sent two members of the State Law Enforcement Department into the county to make an investigation of these alleged crimes. A report of their findings was rendered to the governor of the state and a copy of the report was submitted to the circuit solicitor by these law enforcement officers.

"On a search duly instituted under a search warrent, a copy of the report of these law enforcement officers was found in Capt. Ira B. Thompson's safe, at Luverne, as was also the letter of James Esdale, grand dragon of the Knights of the Ku Klux Klan, dated Sept. 14, 1927, a copy of which was set forth in the subpoena issued on Nov. 28, 1927.

"Since being in Luverne in attendance at court, the chief law enforcement officer and several of his deputies have shown an utter lack of cooperation with the state in its effort to convict the parties indicted. Propaganda has been spread about the county that the chief prosecutor of the state has come here unsolicited and that the efforts of the state, through its attorney general are actuated by political motives.

"The Law Enforcement Department, as represented by its chief suprvisor and several of his assistants have exhibited in my judgment, a frenzied desire to assist the defense instead of the state prosecuting officials.

Made Wide Investigation

"I wish to state that the attorney general of Alabama made considerable

investigations of the conditions in the county and at the request of the local solicitor and many other law abiding citizens of the county, came to Crenshaw and assisted the solicitor in the presentation of the matters to a Grand Jury of Crenshaw County citizens which returned 102 indictments on the basis of evidence presented to it and for which action that Grand Jury is responsible.

"Following this and at the request of the local solicitor, the attorney general employed a local attorney as special prosecutor for the state and on the solicitation of the local solicitor the attorney general and his staff came to Crenshaw County and to this point has assisted the solicitor in the prosecution of these cases.

"My contact with the circuit solicitor, the Hon. Calvin Poole, has been pleasant and agreeable and knowing his ability as a prosecutor and his fearless manner of discharging duty, I am glad that I have had the opportunity to serve with him.

"Now, however, in view of the whole situation and for the utter lack of cooperation from State Law Enforcement agencies and for other reasons which should be perfectly apparent to every law abiding citizen of Crenshaw County and I might say, the state at large and because of the fact that the duties of my office must call me to other parts of the state, I am compelled to withdraw from further contact with the prosecution of the flogging cases in Crenshaw County, leaving the matter to the circuit solicitor and the special prosecutor, the ability of each of which is unquestionable and to the right minded and law abiding citizenship of the county to dispose of as they see fit."

The first hint of strained relations between McCall and Chief McAdory came yesterday in a statement of the attorney general criticizing Mr. McAdory for requesting a call of the Shelby County Grand Jury without his knowledge, to investigate the shooting of Miss Louise Monteabaro.

A breach between the attorney general and Gov. Graves has been apparent for some time but heretofore no intimation of discord between the attorney general's office and that of the State Law Enforcement Department has come to light.

In his statement today Atty. Gen. McCall makes known that Chief McAdory had "apparently" been subpoenaed in the Luverne flogging trials as witness for the defense. Just what testimony Chief McAdory is expected to give in behalf of the flogging defendants has not been made known.

Atty. Gen. McCall had stated that while he had been informed of the contents of the "supposed" confidential report of Chief McAdory's department to the governor, he had not as yet had opportunity to review the report.

The statement was issued following Atty. Gen. McCall's request of Judge E. S. Lyman to recess the Grand Jury immediately after it assembled on Dec. 2. Judge Lyman complied with the request and agreed to recess the jurors.

"McAdory For Defense"

Continuing, Mr. McCall said, "I might say here that I am informed that McAdory and his officers were in Luverne yesterday and that Mr. McAdory has made no effort to communicate with me concerning this or any other affair.

"He was here most of last week, apparently under a subpoena as a witness for the defense along with other enforcement officers in the cases of the indicted floggers and at no time has he attempted to advise or communicate with me concerning the Monteabaro case, or for that matter, any other case."

The break between Gov. Graves and Atty. Gen. McCall came about three weeks before the Crenshaw flogging trials when the governor objected to employment of special counsel to prosecute the flogging cases. The governor said that the attorney general's department and solicitors should be sufficient for the prosecution and declared the state treasury was almost depleted at that time, the attorney general said.

Gov. Graves later declined to comment on the "break" declaring conference was an "administr routine matter."

ORAL LASHES FOR ALABAMA FLOGGERS

A STRIKING AND THOROUGHGOING condemnation of masked violence and the sinister spirit behind it is uttered in resolutions adopted by Alabama Baptists in their recent annual convention in Birmingham. Alabama, it will be recalled, has been shamed by many midnight floggings by masked bands. Some of the leaders in these attacks have been sent to prison, but a recent press dispatch says that, following a controversy between Attorney-General C. C. McCall, who charges undue interference, and the Ku Klux Klan, the trial of thirty-one men charged with participation in a score of masked lashings in Crenshaw County collapsed. However, the Baptist condemnation, gratefully welcomed by some of the Alabama papers, expresses, we are told, the true feeling of Alabamans in general. The resolution, as we quote it from the Birmingham *Age-Herald*, runs:

"In recent months our State has been disgraced by revelations of organized lawlessness on a scale more wide-spread than was ever known before. No lynchings, perhaps, but the lashings are just as outrageous in their flaunting of personal rights and in their defiance of established institutions of justice. We believe that the Christian men and women of this State must repudiate publicly, all acts of masked violence, and must openly uphold delegated peace officers among us. Punishment inflicted outside the law is anarchy, a flagrant and dangerous denial of all law."

The significance of this declaration, says the Birmingham *Age-Herald*, can be fully grasped if one remembers the unhappy preliminaries to a certain flogging which was preceded by a church service in which the doctrines of Jesus were preached. "Thus," says this Birmingham paper, "Christianity was made to serve the sadistic cruelty of a cowardly mob." In welcoming the Baptists' public declaration, *The Age-Herald* also indulges in some criticism:

"Too long have church bodies permitted primitive passions to hide behind lip-service; too long have church organizations allowed some ministers to toy and flirt with the pleasures of the mask. How is it that a preacher, formerly a dispenser of sweetness and light among the hooded floggers of Crenshaw County, is now a refugee from the State's processes, charged with actively participating in inhuman and anti-Christian activities?

"Remove the odor of sanctity which some preachers have given to the night-riding crew, and you cut from under the agents of anarchy and blood-lust one of the mainstays of their edifice of sham and terrorism.

"Break the alliance between stupid or misguided representatives of the Church and vicious and destructive representatives of an invisible empire, and you leave the gentry of the mask very much out in the cold!

"The fumigation and this breach are foreshadowed in the forthright avowal of the Baptists of Alabama that they do not —will not—countenance the domination of law-defilers and Church-defilers in the life of this State."

There has never been any doubt about where the Baptists and all other Christians of Alabama stand on the issue presented by hooded violence, declares the Mobile *Register*, which tells us:

"The truth is that an overwhelming majority of the citizens of this State are opposed to the use of the lash by hooded mobs, and to all other kinds of lawlessness. The weakness in Alabama is not in the mass of Alabama's citizenship. It is in the fact that public officials have not always been as alert as they should have been in dealing with hooded mobs and other violators of the law. Nor will we be able to get rid of these things until public officials, high and low, are forced to respect the decent public opinion of the State by living up to their public obligations and their public oaths.

"But the people at length have been roused to the meaning of these things. They agree with the Baptists that 'punishment inflicted outside of the law is anarchy,' and if we still have men in the public service, under oath to enforce the law, who take a different view, the time will come when they will feel the full weight of intelligent and patriotic public opinion on this issue. The Baptists have spoken the sentiment of the State on this issue of hooded violence and all other kinds of lawlessness, and recreant public officials may as well take sober note of it."

Ku Klux Klan - 1927

Alabama.

M'CALL EXPOSES KLAN PLOT TO HAVE GRAVES PUT "QUIETUS" ON HIM

Letter From Grand Dragon Esdale To Ira Thompson Part Of Subpoena Duces Tecum In Luverne Trials

LUVERNE, ALA., Nov. 28.—Sensational revelations involving correspondence alleged to have been carried on between James Esdale, grand dragon of the Ku Klux Klan in Alabama and Ira B. Thompson, exalted cyclops of the Luverne klavern during the state investigation of Crenshaw floggings and which mentions Gov. Graves, are expected soon in the trials underway in Luverne.

This became known tonight when a subpoena "duces tecum" commanding Grand Dragon Esdale to bring a letter into court which was believed to have been written by Mr. Thompson to Mr. Esdale was issued by the clerk of the Circuit Court here.

A verbatim copy of Esdale's letter to Capt. Thompson was contained in the subpoena. The letter was confiscated as evidence among other effects of the Luverne klavern when a raid was made upon the klavern by agents of Atty. Gen. McCall.

The letter, alleged to have been written by Esdale was dated Sept. 14, 1927. In this letter Grand Dragon Esdale said that he would, within a few days thereafter, solicit the cooperation of Gov. Bibb Graves in an attempt to bring Atty. Gen. McCall "to his senses and let him know that he was elected to run his office and not spend his time working up police court cases against the Ku Klux Klan."

Graves Involved.

Grand Dragon Esdale, in the letter, assured Exalted Cyclops Thompson that he would present "this situation" fully to the governor. "I will immediately get in touch with you and advise you what he contemplates doing, or what he wants us to do to help him out of the situation," he stated.

The "situation" referred to, by every rule of grammatical construction, was that created by the attorney general's Ku Klux Klan investigation, the letter shows.

"I have the utmost confidence in Col. Graves and feel sure that he will lend us his full cooperation in the future as he has so nobly done in the past," the letter continues. The letter expressed the opinion that the chief executive would do something to straighten the "situation."

The letter was signed, "Faithfully yours, In the Sacred Unfailing Bond, J. Esdale, Grand Dragon—Realm of Alabama."

Thompson Subpoenaed.

Exalted Cyclops Thompson was issued a similar subpoena commanding him to bring into court the carbon copy of the letter to which Grand Dragon Esdale's letter was a reply. Other similar subpoenas were issued to Exalted Cyclops Thompson in the Elmer Hill case and in the "Rod" Arant case, as well as in the Thaxton Miller case. Thaxtxon Miller went on trial today. The other two cases have not been called.

Grand Dragon Esdale's letter as quoted in the subpoena, bore the letter head of the office of the Grand Dragon of the Realm of Alabama, 505-7 First National Bank Building, Birmingham.

Text Of Letter.

It was addressed to Capt. Ira B. Thompson, E. C., P. O. Box 150, Luverne, Ala.

The salutation was to "Faithful and Esteemed Klansmen."

Its contents follows:

"This acknowledges receipt of your favor of the twelfth inst., and I have read same with a great deal of interest. I want to say that you hit the keynote and I have been trying all this week to get an engagement with Gov. Graves in order that I could personally present this situation and at the same time lay the ground work for just what you outlined. The Legislature is now gone and I think it is high time that something be done to bring the attorney general to his senses and let him know that the people of Alabama elected him to run the attorney general's office and not spend all of his time around here, working up police court cases against the Ku Klux Klan. I am going to see the governor one day this week and I will immediately get in touch with you and advise you what he contemplates doing or what he wants us to do to help him out of the situation.

"I have the utmost confidence in Col. Graves and feel sure that he will lend us his full cooperation in the future as he has so nobly done in the past and that when the real light of this situation is brought to his attention that he will immediately do something to straighten it out. Personally I feel that Col. Graves' attitude towards the attorney general is about the same as ourselves, but he has had so much on his shoulders during the past few weeks that he hasn't had an opportunity to do just what he would like to do in the matter.

"With kindest regards and best wishes, I am,

"Faithfully your,

"In the Sacred Unfailing Bond,
J. Esdale,

"Grand Dragon—Realm of Alabama."

PITTSBURGH, PA.

Post

NOV 22 1927

U. S. Action in Floggings In Alabama May Be Taken

Federal Intervention to Stop Brutality and Forcing Sales of Property of Victim of Mobs Asked By Congressman.

By ARTHUR SEARS HENNING.
Special to the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette and the Chicago Tribune

WASHINGTON, Nov. 21. — The question of Federal intervention in the Alabama flogging scandals for the purpose of enforcing respect for the constitutional rights and liberties of citizens has been put squarely up to the department of justice.

Armed with accounts of the numerous outrages perpetrated with impunity up to date on Negroes and poor whites and with the Chicago "Tribune" editorial calling upon Attorney General Sargent to invoke the Federal power, Congressman Martin B. Madden, Republican, Illinois, called at the department and urged immediate action by United States authorities.

Sargent to Take Case.

Madden conferred with Acting Attorney General John Marshall and Assistant Attorney General Oscar R. Luhring. Oliver E. Pagan, the indictment expert, was called into the conference for advice on the question of Federal jurisdiction involved. The upshot of the discussion was an agreement that the matter of Federal intervention should be submitted to the attorney general upon his return to Washington from Vermont, where he is directing flood relief activities.

"The outrages described in dispatches from Alabama form one of the blackest pages in American history," said Madden upon emerging from the conference at the department of justice. "It makes the blood boil to read the details of these fiendish persecutions. The state that tolerates such abuses of the rights and liberties of human beings guaranteed by our government must hang her head in shame, if she be not shameless.

Victims of Bigotry.

"I came to the department of justice to see if there is not some recourse to a higher power in behalf of these poor Negroes and other victims of bigotry, intolerance, race hatred and orgiastic brutality. These outrages have been taking place with steadily increasing frequency in Alabama and other southern states for years. State authorities have been either unwilling or unable to cope with these law-breakers."

Madden said he had obtained no assurance of Federal action, but that he was hopeful that the attorney general, after careful consideration of the facts in the numerous flogging cases, would institute proceedings for Federal grand jury indictment of the offenders.

There is considerable difference of opinion among government lawyers concerning the grounds for Federal prosecution of the persons who, by duress, succeeded in obtaining title to Arthur Hitt's 45-acre farm and driving him from the country. By some of them it is maintained that the acts in question are not violative of either the Fourth or the Fourteenth amendments to the Constitution.

Applies to Government.

The Fourth amendment guarantees "the right of the people to be secure in their persons, houses, papers, and effects against unreasonable searches and seizures." The forcible invasion of the cabin of Arthur Hitt by a hooded gang and the kidnaping and flogging of the Negro might be mildly characterized as an "unreasonable search and seizure," but the supreme court has held that the Fourth amendment applies not to the acts of individuals, but to the acts of the Federal government. The amendment forbids the Federal government to commit an unreasonable search and seizure.

The amendment, according to supreme court decisions, does not even forbid an unreasonable search and seizure by a state government. The court has ruled in prohobition cases that a search for liquor by state authorities without a warrant is not violative of the fourth amendment and that liquor so seized may be used in evidence by Federal authorities so long as it was seized without a warrant by state and not by Federal authorities.

Chance For Appeal Seen.

Likewise, some of the government lawyers doubt that the enforced sale of Arthur Hitt's farm is violation of the fourteenth amendment forbidding "any state to deprive any person of life, liberty or property without due process of law." It is pointed out that it was not the action of the state that deprived him of his property and the supreme court has ruled that "it is a state action of a particular character that is prohibited." Others hold that, if the Alabama courts sustain the deprivation of Hitt of his property, that would constitute state action from which there would be appeal to the United States supreme court under the fourteenth amendment.

Another objection raised to Federal intervention is that the Alabama authorities have indicted a large number of alleged floggers and are proceeding to try them, including the alleged persecutors of Arthur Hitt. It is contended that the central government would not be justified in interfering unless the state proves remissness on enforcement of the law.

Depends on Attitude.

The fact is, however, that these objections will not weigh heavily against Federal intervention if the administration is genuinely desirous of protecting the Negro and putting an end to mob outrages.

When mobs forcibly deported 1,200 I. W. W's from Arizona to New Mexico after the war, the department of justice instituted prosecutions in face of objections by government lawyers that no Federal law had been violated. But the administration desired to demonstrate at that time that the same government which prosecuted the I. W. W. during the war could be relied upon to protect I. W. W. in the exercise of their rights as citizens.

The supreme court held, however, that the deportation was not violative of Federal law.

PRESS COMMENT ON THE CRENSHAW TRIALS

Alabama has never before been watched more closely and critically than it is being watched at this moment. The nation knows what has occurred in this State lately. It has read the recent history of Alabama with absorbing interest.

The country knows, for instance, all about what occurred in Crenshaw County. It knows that 32 persons had 100 indictments returned against them, that two of these persons were acquitted and the other indictments, while not quashed, were temporarily dropped. The country knows the political power which the Ku Klux Klan has wielded in Alabama. The country

knows that our prosecuting officers lately have been handicapped and discouraged in at least one Alabama county, although in still another county these prosecutors have met with brilliant success. 12-5-27

Knowing these things, the country has become sharply critical of Alabama. There is acid in the editorial comment which comes under our attention. For example, the following editorial from The Baltimore Evening Sun: Montgomery Ala

The cases against the Alabama floggers have collapsed because, according to the prosecutor, there is no sentiment against flogging in Crenshaw County. Bringing men to trial when juries are certain to acquit is a waste of time and money, so there was nothing for the State to do except withdraw the cases.

It was a bad day for the Alabama boosters when this admission was made. If Alabama believes in flogging, civilized people are not going to live in Alabama, if they can help it. It is particularly undesirable as a place of residence for negroes and poor white men, the two classes that furnish the labor to make Alabama farm lands profitable. If it becomes impossible to get, or to keep, farm hands, the value of Alabama farm lands will sink.

The practice of dragging men and women out of their beds at night and beating them savagely may furnish entertainment to the inhabitants of Crenshaw County, but it is expensive entertainment, for eventually it is certain to play havoc with the price of real estate.

The Greensboro (N. C.) Daily News, one of the most enlightened of Southern journals, commenting upon the breakdown of justice in Crenshaw County, remarks that "if it were only a decision on innocence or guilt, there would be no questioning of the results." But appearances "indicate that questions of innocence or guilt are the smallest ones involved; that the real questions are tied up in politics, kluckerism, secret control of court processes, internal conflicts between different prosecuting agencies and general approval of flogging as a natural, normal and beneficial action by white citizens. Hence the conclusion is inescapable that at least one Alabama county wants flogging and will fight like fury to defend floggers."

Continuing, The Daily News says:

The attorney general has said that the State Law Enforcement Department was much more interested in defending those indicted than in prosecuting them. He has written that reports of investigations submitted to the governor have been found in the possession of leaders of the Ku Klux Klan, thereby establishing a connection between the executive office and klucker headquarters. He has testified that his efforts have been met by propaganda which has seemingly convinced most of Crenshaw County that he has political motives and that he is persecuting innocent men and women. And to all of this he can find only the answer that he can do no more. He cannot fight the whole county when the county is allied with, reenforced and strengthened by a great body of public opinion elsewhere and the apparent approval and assistance of officials.

To all this, no doubt, a good deal could be said on the other side. Political ambitions can become involved in public prosecutions. But it will require a good deal to convince the remainder of the country that efforts to defeat the spirit of flogging in Alabama are unsuccessful now because too large a portion of the people of Alabama approve, commend and desire flogging.

The Macon Telegraph arraigns Gov. Graves, whom it stigmatizes as the "head" of the Klan. "The Telegraph," says our Georgia contemporary, "refers to the governor of Alabama as 'head' of the Klan in full knowledge that he does not wear the title; he is head of the Klan in moral leadership. As such, he is responsible for the collapse of justice in Alabama." The Telegraph follows with a review of Attorney General McCall's statement in which he charged that the State Law Enforcement Department had sided with the defense instead of the State, and a review of the letter from Jim Esdale to a Luverne Klansman, and concludes by saying:

The governor of Alabama had done "nobly" by the Klan in the past; he had lent "full cooperation." At Luverne, 32 men were under indictment for flogging, for violation of the laws of the State. It never occurred to Esdale, dragon of the Klan, that there was any issue of justice, but only that Klansmen were under indictment and that Klansmen, sacred beings that they are, cannot be guilty of crime and that, therefore, it was his duty of every other Klansman to see that they went scot free.

The only two defendants who were tried, did go scot free. Esdale won a victory; the Klan won a victory. The thermometer of justice in Alabama stands below the zero mark.

An equally vigorous editorial is found in The Memphis Commercial Appeal, which says:

The acquittal of two defendants in Alabama charged with kidnaping and flogging a white man in one case and a negro woman in another, together with the involvement in the matter of the Ku Klux Klan, has brought about a dispiriting result. The applause over the acquittals heralded the resignation of the State attorney general from further active participation in the cases and now has come the cancellation of 31 similar cases in the same county. And what these happenings will mean in other counties where the strength of the Klan can be exerted ought not to be difficult to predict.

But nothing can remove the fact that hundreds of men, women and children have been taken out by mobs, flogged or otherwise mistreated and sometimes compelled to leave the State. The offenses involved in these instances of organized lawlessness cannot be wiped out by any claim that the ones seeking to uphold the sanctity of the law and the integrity of government are inspired by political motives. They remain not only as crimes that are unpunished but also as direct attacks upon the foundation of organized government which have not been repelled.

Is it not both reasonable and logical to assume that if the guilty go free in all the cases now pending there will be a revival of this organized lawlessness upon an even larger scale? What will prevent any mob from using violence on whomsoever it pleases if the mobs that have already operated are allowed to go scot free? And does it need anyone learned in the law to foresee the day when, under such conditions, law must abdicate its authority and surrender its throne to lawlessness?

The issue as it stands for Alabama and Alabamians transcends immeasurably in importance any question of Klan or anti-Klan, any matter of political advantage or similar consideration. It is a big question mark behind the statement of whether or not the great State of Alabama will surrender to lawlessness.

In conclusion, we revert to the cynical remark of the Baltimore Evening Sun: "The practice of dragging men and women out of their beds at night and beating them savagely may furnish entertainment to the inhabitants of Crenshaw County, but it is expensive entertainment, for eventually it is certain to play havoc with the price of real estate."

Undoubtedly Alabama has been injured economically by floggers. We shall never know how much the State has been injured in this respect. But more impressive still is the logical conclusion of The Memphis Commercial Appeal: "What will prevent any mob from using violence on whomever it pleases if the mobs that have already operated are to go scot free? And does it need anyone learned in the law to foresee the day when, under such conditions, law must abdicate its authority and surrender its throne to lawnessness?"

Florence, Ala. News.

NOV 3 1927

NEGROES SAY THREAT WAS FROM K. K. K.

Disregard Mysterious Note Except to Notify Officers

COLBERT NEGRO TELLS OF NOTE

Colbert Negroes Can Give no Reason for Sending It

Abe Jackson and Lizzie Vinson, negro land owners, living in Colbert county near Muscle Shoals City, who received a threatening note last week, ordering them to "clear out" before November 1 have ignored the warning and so far no harm has befallen them.

The negroes stated they found the note in their corn field, which is some distance from their homes, that it was addressed to "Abe Jackson and Lizzie Vinson" and signed "K. K. K." Each of the four corners of the note had been burned off, the negroes declared.

The negroes did not have the note but stated they had placed the matter in the hands of Sheriff J. E. Keeton of Colbert county. They branded as erroneous reports that they had fled from their homes in fright and had been missing since receiving the note. They have never left their homes, the negroes stated, and do not intend to do so.

Own Small Farm

Lizzie Vinson is the aged mother of Abe Jackson and they live in two houses side by side just off the Muscle Shoals City paved road. They own and operate a small farm. Part of the land they farm is situated some distance from their homes and it was on this latter land that they found the warning.

Neither of the two negroes could give any reason for the warning, as they said they had never had any trouble with any one and the mother, Lizzie Vinson, has been living there about five years. When asked if they thought the warning might have been sent them to scare them into selling their property, the negroes said they did not know.

The matter was called to attention of Attorney General McCall in Montgomery Monday and also to Sheriff Keeton, it was said, but so far no arrests have been made in connection with the case and so far as can be ascertained no one has been suspected as author of the note.

Ku Klux Klan—1927

Alabama.

JURY TO HOLD FATE OF THAXTON MILLER THIS AFTERNOON

State Elects To Try Miller Instead Of Arant, As Planned, When Several Witnesses Fail To Appear

M'CALL IN BACKGROUND BRICKEN CONDUCTS CASE

Victim Recognized Defendant By Voice; Tells Story Of Beating

By HAROLD STEPHENS
(Staff Correspondent)

LUVERNE, ALA., Nov. 28—The question of the guilt or innocence of Thaxton Miller charged with kidnaping Travis Bozeman in the second Crenshaw County flogging case, will probably rest in the jury's hands Tuesday afternoon. The state rested its case at 5 o'clock Monday afternoon.

Judge A. E. Gamble overruled a motion to exclude the testimony offered by the state on the ground that a prima facie case had not been made out, at the conclusion or argument by W. L. Lee, of the defense, just before the close of court Monday afternoon, leaving the defense to present its testimony in court Tuesday. The introduction and examination of defense witnesses, it is thought, should be concluded Monday morning and the case will go to the jury after argument by opposing counsel.

If. Atty. Gen. Charlie C. McCall has a confession from the defendant, as is rumored, no intimation of it was given in court. The vigorous attacks against the manner in which McCall was alleged to have obtained evidence, which featured both state and defense testimony in the first trial, was completely lacking in the courtroom today.

Atty. Gen. McCall kept himself in the background, leaving the entire conduct of the case to Atty. Frank B. Bricken, of Luverne, who is assisting the state. Atty. Bricken handled the case with dispatch, barely two hours and a half being consumed in presenting the state's case.

And when the state rested, the case was left to the defense with evidence before the jury that Travis Bozeman had been severely beaten by a mob of masked and robed men on the night of Wednesday, July 28, 1926, near Sardis Church, in Crenshaw County and that one of those men as identified by testimony of the victim, was Thaxton Miller.

Travis Bozeman, the victim, was the first witness to take the stand. He testified that he was 37 years of age, not married and that he lived with his father, John Bozeman, at Saville, in Crenshaw County. On the night of Wednesday, July 28, 1926, he said, he went to the Sardis Church, near his home, for services. After the meeting, he said he left the church with Cue Bozeman, John Edwards, Mrs. Sallie Owens, David Owens and Mrs. David Owens, in an automobile. About three-quarters of a mile from the church, he said, the car was stopped by a band of about twelve masked and robed men. Several, he stated, had pistols in their hands.

They demanded who was in the car, the witness testified and while John Owens was giving their names one of their number came around to the side of the car, where he was standing on the running board and, catching hold of him, exclaimed, "here is the man we are hunting."

They took him off the running board, the witness said and put a blind-fold on him before they put him into a car. "I recognized two of them by their voices," Mr. Bozeman said. "They were Elmer Hill and Thaxton Miller."

In Two Cars.

The party, he said, was in two cars. As they were about to take him away, he testified, he asked them not to hurt him and received the reply that they were just going to ride him around a little. But about three-quarters of a mile away, in a sandy bottom, the witness testified, they stopped and took him from the car. One of them, it was said, told the others not to lay him where he would "nasty" up his clothes.

Some of them held him, lying flat on his stomach, by the feet and head, while all of them took turns beating him, with what he thought wasa leather strap, across the hips. They struck him 40 or 50 licks, he said.

When they finished, he said, they helped him up and in dismissing him, told him to "go and get to work."

Rode Next To Miller.

The witness testified that in the car he rode next to Thaxton Miller and that the defendant in the case asked him a number of questions: Do you drink liquor? Does your father draw a pension? You help him spend his money, don't you? Didn't you go home once and throw a gun on your father?

All of these, except the last one, the witness testified, he answered in the affirmative and except for these questions, he said he has no idea why he was beaten.

Cue Bozeman, who was driving the automobile from which he was taken, appeared on the scene about the time they finished beating him, Mr. Bozeman said. A few minutes later they let him go.

The witness underwent a severe cross-examination from Attys. Horace Wilkerson, as to how he had recognized the voices of Elmer Hill and Thaxton Miller. He said that he had known both of them a long time and that he had heard both of them talk and that the masked men talked like they did.

Made No Report.

He also testified that he made no report of the case to the sheriff and that the first time he talked it over with an officer was when state law enforcement officers came this year and asked him about it.

Mr. Bozeman said that the flesh where the blows were struck was bruised, discolored and shot with blood and that it bled to some extent. He stated that he went to a doctor two days later to have him examine the parts.

Dr. S. E. Jordan, of Luverne, testified that Travis Dozeman had come to see him in July or August of 1926 and had him examine bruises across his hips. He said that the flesh was black and blue and that the bruised places were shot with blood. He said that the flesh was not broken and that, to his knowledge the injury did not bleed. He said that Mr. Bozeman told him he had been beaten.

Emmett Williamson, who also attended the services at Sardis Church, testified that he saw two automobiles parked near the side of the road and that there were 10 or 12 masked and robed men about. One of them stopped the car he was in, he said and asked if Travis Bozeman were there. When it was found that he was not the masked figure told them they could drive on, he said.

Later in the evening he was near the scene of the flogging and heard licks, he testified. He said that he could not estimate the number of them but that they continued several minutes. He heard cries, also and recognized Travis Bozeman's voice, he said.

Later, he testified, he saw Travis Bozeman's injuries and testified that the flesh was bruised severely, discolored and shot with blood, but that it was not broken.

When T. L. Rhoades, the next witness, came to the witness chair the state began the presentation of a collateral line of testimony to connect Thaxton Miller with the case. The witness testified that at Fuller's Cross Roads, which is about three or four miles from Saville and the scene of the flogging, he saw Thaxton Miller, Dove Holland, a Mr. Piper, Walden Matthews and Cue Bozeman together around the store there. When they left he said, the time was just after dark and they left in a Ford touring car and a Chevrolet touring car.

Worthy Downs, the next witness, testified that he saw Thaxton Miller, Dove Bolling, Rufus Welch, Willie Welch and Maxie Miller in a Ford touring car at Fuller's Cross Roads during the afternoon and that along with them were Elmer Hill and several others, whom he could not recognize because the side curtains were up in a Chevrolet touring car.

On cross-examination pinned by questions as to why he remembered seeing them so well and did not recall others who were there, the witness said: "The reason I remember seeing them is that just as they left one of the boys said, 'some nigger's going to get a beating tonight.'"

Both Rhoades and Downs placed the day of seeing the cars at that on which Mr. Bozeman was beaten.

Like "Dunce Caps"

Parker Tucker was the next witness called to the stand. He also was at Sardis Church that night and coming away from the church after the services, saw two cars and about 12 masked and robed men beside the road. Replying to Atty. Bricken's question as to whether their caps had tassels on them the witness said they had little "stick ups" on them. "Like a dunce cap," Mr. Bricken asked. "Yes, sir," was the reply.

Tucker testified that he was a nephew of the victim.

Miss Ella Bozeman, a niece of Mr. Bozeman, who was in the car with Parker Tucker, corroborated the testimony given as to the masked men and two parked cars beside the road.

Parker Tucker was again called to the stand and identified the two cars as a Chevrolet touring car and a Ford touring car.

Heard Blows Struck

B. J. Mitchell, a merchant of Saville, testified that he went to the services at Sardis Church on that night and that later, when he returned to his home, he heard blows struck at a spot about 300 yards from his home. The blows continued as he walked with his wife some 40 yards to his house, he said, and after he was in the house, whenever he went to the window, he could hear muffled screams along with them.

A good many blows were struck, he said. The number could not have been less than 35 or 40, he testified.

A few minutes after the blows ceased he said, a party passed by his home from that direction in two cars. One man, who was on the running board and who was the only one he saw clearly, wore a mask and robe, he said. Mitchell also testified that he saw the two cars parked on the road near the church and that there were masked and robed men around them.

His son, T. V. Mitchell, who accompanied his father that night, corroborated his father's statement, both as to seeing the cars and masked men near the church and as to hearing the blows and screams. They came from a place about 300 yards away, he said.

T. V. Mitchell also identified the two parked cars as Chevrolet and Ford touring cars.

Robert Gill also testified that he saw the two cars, a Chevrolet and a Ford touring car and the masked men near the church.

Floggers Armed

Stough Rogers, who drove the car in which the witness Emmett Williamson had ridden testified that the car had been stopped by the masked men in the bottom and that the man who had stopped it had an object in his hand which he identified as a pistol. After the masked man had received a negative reply on his question for Travis Bozeman, Rogers testified that he was told to drive on.

With Rogers' testimony the state concluded its case. The jury was immediately turned over to the sheriff who was instructed to care for them through the night and taken from the courtroom.

The motion of the defense to exclude the testimony offered by the state, was then filed and argued. The pith of the argument of the defense for their motion was that the case made out was that of "white capping" and not kidnaping.

CRENSHAW TRIALS END ABRUPTLY AS CASES WITHDRAWN

Solicitor Poole Requests Delay Until Such Time As There Is Different Sentiment In County

CAN REOPEN 31 CASES AT ANY TIME IN FUTURE

Closes Most Sensational Page In History Of Crenshaw Circuit Court

By HAROLD STEPHENS
(Staff Correspondent)

LUVERNE, ALA., Nov. 30.—The Crenshaw County flogging trials, with verdicts of acquittal in the first two cases tried, came to an abrupt end this morning following Atty. Gen. Charlie C. McCall's withdrawal from the cases Tuesday evening. Judge A. E. Gamble adjourned court following the withdrawal by Circuit Solicitor Calvin Poole and Atty. Frank B. Bricken, who is assisting the state of the remaining cases "until such time as there is a different sentiment in this county."

Whether the collapse of the prosecution is permanent and the remaining cases, which involve 31 men, will ever come to trial, is a question which only the future will answer. The cases were not nolle prossed. They were withdrawn, with leave to bring them up again at such a time as the state may see fit.

With the adjournment of court Luverne and Crenshaw County turned the most sensational page in their history.

Attracted Interest Last Fall.

Interest in Crenshaw County and the actions of the night riders there, among whom it was alleged were members of the Ku Klux Klan, was first attracted early in the Fall when reports were made at the state Capitol of conditions in the county.

The investigation by the office of Atty. Gen. Charlie C. McCall, which followed one by the State Law Enforcement Bureau, came close on the heels of the flogging trials in Blount County, when eight men were convicted of complicity in the flogging of Jeff Calloway.

At the completion of eleven weeks of investigation by the attorney general, a special term of the Grand Jury was requested by the attorney general, a request which was seconded by Gov. Bibb Graves.

The Grand Jury, which was called in October by Judge A. E. Gamble, of the Second Judicial Circuit, reviewed evidence which had been gathered by men of the attorney general's office, examined many witnesses, among whom were several who had been arrested on various charges connected with the floggings.

The Grand Jury returned 102 indictments against 34 men. In their report, they stated that they had found that a virtual reign of terror had existed in the county; that many of the affairs had been perpetrated by members of the Ku Klux Klan and reported that, in their opinion, the whole situation was the "evil fruit of evil leadership," within klan halls.

All except one of the 34 men indicted were arrested subsequently. The Rev. L. A. Nalls, a Baptist minister of Georgiana, Ala., who left his home at the beginning of the Grand Jury session, has never been apprehended.

As a result of his investigations and work with the Grand Jury Atty. Gen. Charlie C. McCall, a klansman, resigned from the order, stating that membership in it was inconsistent with the duties of his office.

The approaching trials were anticipated with much interest. When court opened the little town, which has about 2,000 inhabitants, was crowded with visitors from every section of the state. Every detail of the trials were followed with interest by the spectators.

The first trial that of Shelby Gregory charged with kidnaping Annie Mae Simmons, resulted in an acquittal. The second, that of Thaxton Miller charged with kidnaping Travis Bozeman, resulted in a similar verdict.

Shortly after the second case had gone to the jury Atty. Gen. Charlie C. McCall announced his withdrawal from the cases, giving as one of his reasons an utter lack of cooperation with him on the part of the State Law Enforcement Bureau, which he accused of a frenzied desire to aid the defense.

The next morning, yesterday, the attorney for the state, by asking a withdrawal of the cases until such time as public sentiment shall have changed, tacitly admitted the inability of the state to secure convictions.

THE CRENSHAW DEBACLE

I.

The acquittal of two men and the temporary release of all others against whom indictments were lodged, does not reduce by one the number of persons who have been flogged in Crenshaw County.

The complete collapse of the State's case in the Luverne drama is in no sense a reflection on the attorneys for the State nor upon the 18 Crenshaw County citizens who returned the indictments, all but two of which have now been dropped.

Those upstanding supporters of law and order among the citizens of Crenshaw County from among whom came the 18 grand jurors that returned the indictments now shelved, may be chagrined; but they can be in no doubt as to the cause of the debacle. 12-1-27

The answer? It is that the Ku Klux Klan machine is strong enough to overcome the State's forces in Crenshaw County. It has shown that it was strong enough to divert attention from crimes committed by Klansmen and a few others in Crenshaw County to the personality of the attorney general and instead of putting the floggers to trial, put the State's attorney on trial.

On trial for what? For having worked up the cases against floggers; for having shown that he was in earnest, for having repudiated the Klan of which he was once a member and denounced it as a menace to constituted authority in Alabama.

By inciting public opinion against McCall, the Klan and its agents were able to paralyze the State in the courtroom at Luverne. Floggers are better esteemed by many Alabamians than are citizens who have made war on floggers. It is common knowledge that a great many Alabamians believe in the flogging of men and women by hooded bands. It is not surprising that persons who believe this way should now and then find their way to the jury box.

Mr. McCall attacked the State's problem in Crenshaw with energy and hearty courage, but after two acquittals he became disgusted and retired, leaving the other cases to Solicitor Calvin Poole. Now Mr. Poole, realizing that because of the state of public opinion in Crenshaw it would be futile to proceed with the trial of the other cases, drops them.

II.

In announcing his retirement from the trial of these cases the attorney general brings a charge against the State Law Enforcement Department, and its chief, Walter K. McAdory, which should be of grave concern to every Alabamian. The attorney general practically charges that he has been harassed and handicapped at every turn of the Crenshaw County affair by the Law Enforcement Department. He declares flatly that this bureau has not cooperated with him in the prosecution of these cases.

For some time it has been known that there were strained relations between the attorney general and Chief McAdory, a feeling which apparently has grown out of a lack of common sympathy between the two officials of the State.

Chief McAdory has yet to give his side of the question raised by Mr. McCall in his charge that McAdory and some of his men failed to cooperate in the Crenshaw trials, and until he does the public may properly suspend judgment.

Nevertheless it is a bad situation when the State's forces cannot present a solid front against night riders and the torturers of men and women in Alabama. It is depressing to learn that an important branch of the State's law enforcement machinery, instead of throwing itself whole-heartedly into this war for justice and common decency, prefers to nag and handicap that part of the law enforcement machinery that has thrown its heart into this cause.

III.

We might suggest that here is a matter which should excite the interest of the governor of Alabama; we might suggest that he as the chief magistrate of this State should investigate the grave allegations made by the attorney general, and, finding them true, should take appropriate action. We might suggest that now, having heard these allegations and having read (our guess is that he has read it!) that letter written by Jim Esdale to Capt. Ira B. Thompson, Gov. Graves should issue a ringing statement to clear up the public mind as to his attitude and stiffen the backbones of all law enforcement officers, whether detectives, prosecutors or judges, and hearten all lovers of liberty, justice and fairplay in this State.

But such suggestions, we have reason to fear, would be futile. Gov. Graves has done little since the Oneonta convictions to hearten the citizens of this State who are making war on the mask and lash. On the contrary, he has done much to dishearten them and to comfort and encourage the wearers of the mask.

Gov. Graves opposed the passage of legislation designed to unmask the Klan. He proposed and did all he could to have passed a number of bills to muzzle that part of the press that was making war on the mask and lash (under which Crenshaw and Luverne could have taken court action against a number of Alabama newspapers.) He called in the attorney general and threatened to limit the funds which that official might use in prosecuting the floggers of Alabama. And now the attorney general bluntly charges that law enforcement agents, appointed by the governor and responsible to him, failed to cooperate with the attorney general in the trial of several important cases.

Gov. Graves not only has failed to resign his membership in the Klan, but has thus far failed even to rebuke the lawless element in the Klan.

It is vain, then, to hope now for a word of real encouragement from the governor of Alabama. He has been silent when he should have spoken; he has been obstinate when he should have been responsive to reasonable calls upon his devotion to the higher interests of civilization in this State. Having refused to speak in the past, we need not expect him to speak in future—unless, perchance, the applause of the delegates in the "law enforcement" convention which he is to address in Washington soon should move him to discuss the evil of mask and lash in Alabama!

Ku Klux Klan - 1927

Alabama

FIFTY-SIX TALLADEGA RESIDENTS ARE FLOGGED IN THREE-YEAR PERIOD

Names Released By Attorney General McCall; Blame For 90 Per Cent Of Outrages Laid To Ku Klux Klan; Six White Women Whipped

An appalling record of the flogging by masked mobs in Talladega county, over a period of three years, of 56 defenseless persons, white and black, men and women, was made public yesterday by Attorney General Charlie C. McCall, who stated that these more than half hundred lashings were brought to light by investigators working out of his office.

The record extends from 1924 through August of the present year, he said. In 90 per cent of these cases, he added, investigations have revealed that the floggings were perpetrated by masked mobs wearing the robes and regalia of the Ku Klux Klan. The method used, the attorney general stated his investigators found, was for three or four men with handkerchiefs over their faces, to go to the house of the victim and call him or her outside, and then these men would escort the victim to a roadway where a band of figures wearing the robes and regalia of the Klan waited.

This band of hooded figures, it is stated, then took the victim to any place their whim directed, and there the lash was applied. Some of those flogged were beaten so cruelly, it is alleged, that bits of their clothing were embedded in their flesh.

Incendiarism Charged.

In addition to floggings, it is stated, a number of barns and other buildings were burned and two negro houses were dynamited by nocturnal marauders, after owners of the buildings had received mysterious warnings.

All but a few of those flogged in Talladega county have fled the state, Attorney General McCall said, some of them now residing in Texas, Tennessee Georgia and other states.

The list of persons lashed by mobs in the county of Talladega during the period stated, according to reports of the attorney general's investigators, together with the year in which the outrage occurred, as announced by Attorney General McCall yesterday, follows:

White persons: M. C. Mathews, 1927; Clowson Wyatt, 1925; P. H. DeBardelaben, 1924; B. W. Price, 1924; W. C. Malone, 1925; J. V. Jones, 1925; Mrs. J. V. Jones, 1925; W. P. Germany, 1924; Lee H. Howell, 1927, a Greek, and his wife, name not given, 1925; John Hurt, 1926; Thomas Hicks, 1925; Tap Curtiss, 1926; Bill Kelly, 1925; L. P. Durden, 1926; T. F. Reaves, 1924.

Mrs. Kate Easterling, 1924—again in 1925 and again in 1926; Ellery Easterling and Elbert Easterling, both 17 years of age, 1926; Dolphus Guy, 1925; Ernest Horner, 1927; Will Bone, 1926; Mr. Heath initials not given, 1925; Charlie Daniel, 1925; Leonard Cooper, 1925; Fanin Gabriel, Bose Gabriel and Lucy Gabriel, 1925; Smyley Whiteside, 1925; Frank Hodge, 1925; Bill Hollingsworth, 1925; Therman Germany, 1925; Mrs. Pickett, initials not given, 1926; Mrs. Minnie Cox, 1926.

Negroes: Napoleon Bledsoe, 1925; Charlie Jackson, 1924; Willie Booker 1924; Eli Garrett, 1925; Joe Isom, 1924; Carrie Isom, 1924; Pat Cooper, 1925; Lonnie Dobbs, 1925 Lon Hundley, 1924; Alex Whaley, 1924; Douglas McKenzy; Ceaser McKenzy, 1925; Snap Ragland 1925; Dr. Brunnett, 1924; negro druggist, name not given, 1924; three negro farm hands, names not given; another negro man and a negro woman, names not given, 1924.

Homes Dynamited

Within the period stated, two negro houses, owned or occupied by Gus Barnett and J. P. Shaw, respectively, were dynamited it is stated. A school, a church, the residence of J. W. Moncrief, and a number of barns were burned. Dance halls of Joe Morriss and Steve Mashburn were also committed to the flames.

Stating that a majority of these persons who are alleged to have been flogged by masked mobs, have fled from Alabama to other states, Attorney General McCall added that most of the witnesses have also fled and that those who still reside in Talladega county are "afraid to talk."

Asked what action he has taken, is taking, or will take, to bring the perpetrators of these outrages to justice, Attorney General McCall stated. "At the time I consider appropriate, I will be in Talladega county, and those people who have been molested and those who know of violence done, I want to feel that they can come to me and that what they tell me will be in absolute confidence.

"If anyone familiar with these cases wants to communicate with me at Montgomery, they should address their letter to the 'Attorney General of Alabama, State Capitol, Montgomery Alabama, and be sure to register their letter and ask for a return receipt. There will be no danger of such correspondence or information becoming public.

"I want to warn all parties against 'fake' investigators, or persons posing as peace officers, who do not have in their possession a letter of identification from the attorney general. I want to assure all parties that they will be protected from violence or intimidation."

WHO IS THE VILLAIN—THE STATE OR THE FLOGGERS?

The Advertiser is in receipt of the following remarkable letter from Mr. John C. McLendon, editor of The Luverne Journal:

Editor The Advertiser:

The verdict in the first and only case tried in the kidnapping and flogging cases tried in this county, proves conclusively that the people of Crenshaw County are opposed to unfair methods resorted to by the attorney general of the State in securing evidence upon which to convict the parties indicted.

The evidence as given by Shelby Gregory, as to how he was coerced into signing a prepared confession by the attorney general was believed by the jury trying the case and the people generally believed the witness and defendant in his own behalf, and they did not believe the evidence of the attorney general. If the evidence of Gregory is true, to say the least of it, that it is revolting, and beneath the dignity of the high office of the attorney general of the State.

The verdict of the jury in finding the defendant not guilty is a complete slap in the face of the attorney general's unfair methods and the people of this county will repudiate him and his enforcement squad who have been working in conjunction with the bootleggers and law violators in this county, and if the evidence in all the flogging and kidnapping cases in this county where indictments have been secured is of the same character as in the case tried, it will be hard to secure any convictions.

We are on the ground and know what is behind all these cases, and we know that the best people of the county, including the women, are in sympathy with the ones indicted for having taken the law in their own hands. The laws were not being enforced against bootleggers and other violators of the law by the county officers, too many candidates for reelection, and therefore the cause of the infractions of the law by the Klan, if there were any.

We want to say further, the effort of the attorney general to have the cases tried in the daily papers, instead of the courts, has met resentment of the best class of citizens of this county, and the efforts of the daily papers to cast a stigma on the citizenship of this county has met further resentment and the general opinion is that Crenshaw can run her own affairs, including the courts, without the undue interference of the daily papers or the presence of the attorney general of the State.

We have a fair minded, conscientious circuit judge, we have an honest and an efficient solicitor, we have a citizenship who want all the laws enforced in a fair and impartial way, giving to each their constitutional rights under the laws of our State.

J. C. McLENDON.

Luverne, Ala., Nov. 25, 1927.

Here is an Alabama editor who publicly and unqualifiedly condones the crimes for which a number of Crenshaw citizens have been indicted—and indicted by a jury composed of responsible Crenshaw County citizens—and just as publicly and unqual-

ifiedly attacks the chief law officer of this State but for whose resourcefulness, energy and courage the evidence on which the indictments rest would not have been gathered.

Yet in the same letter in which Mr. McLendon condones crimes of violence and denounces the attorney general of Alabama, he professes patriotic devotion to the principle of law enforcement! For, he says, in justifying the kidnaping and flogging of men and women, white and colored: "The laws were not being enforced against bootleggers and other violations of the law by the county officers." If perchance these unrestrained bootleggers should kidnap and whip the floggers who have annoyed them, we imagine that the editor of The Luverne Journal would be put to it to decide what opinion a sound advocate of Law Enforcement should entertain with respect to such unheard-of goings on.

Early in the Luverne trials it became apparent that attorneys for the defense were more interested in trying Charlie McCall than in trying kidnapers and floggers who, unlike McCall, had been indicted by a grand jury of responsible Crenshaw County citizens. Attorneys for the defense boldly appealed to the prejudices of the jury against the attorney general of Alabama—to what end? To discredit that official and thereby save the skins of prisoners at the bar, most of whom are members of the Ku Klux Klan. The purpose was not only to save the first man put on trial, whose acquittal so delights our correspondent, but to make it as difficult as possible for the State to get convictions in all the other cases pending against floggers (especially Klansmen), not only in Crenshaw, but other Alabama counties.

If Klan lawyers and Klan apologists can make Charlie McCall instead of indicted floggers the issue in the courts of Alabama they will be able to excite all the prejudice which Klansmen feel against McCall on account of his repudiation of the Klan and his relentless warfare upon the lawless elements within the Klan.

Beat men and women half to death in Alabama in the honored name of law enforcement, but when the oath-bound officials of this State move against the torturers, denounce the officials and eulogize the floggers!

Commercial Appeal
DEC 8 1927

BALTIMORE PAPER ON FLOGGING

The editor of the Baltimore Sun, writing on lawlessness in Alabama says:

> The case against the Alabama floggers has collapsed because, according to the prosecutor, there is no sentiment against flogging in Crenshaw county. Bringing men to trial when juries are certain to acquit it is a waste of time and money, so there was nothing for the state to do except withdraw the cases.
>
> It was a bad day for the Alabama boosters when this admission was made. If Alabama believes in flogging, civilized people are not going to live in Alabama, if they can help it. It is particularly undesirable as a place of residence for negroes and poor white men, the two classes that furnish the labor to make Alabama farm lands profitable. If it becomes impossible to get, or to keep, farm hands, the value of Alabama farm lands will sink.
>
> The practice of dragging men and women out of their beds at night and beating them savagely may furnish entertainment to the inhabitants of Crenshaw county, but it is expensive entertainment, for eventually it is certain to play havoc with the price of real estate.

And in the closing paragraph, the Sun says: "It will play havoc with the price of real estate." If that was all, it would not be so bad. What is the price of real estate, when compared to other damages that result from such lawlessness. If mobs in the night time—organized mobs or unorganized mobs—take the law in their own hands, defy the courts and the legalized authorities, what is to become of our civilization? Do we need court houses, judges, sheriffs, or juries any longer if the criminal law is to be thus enforced. Who knows when innocent people, men, women and children will become victims of a lawless mob, be taken to the woods and beat into insensibility? What is the price of real estate when compared to such casuelties?

THE "EVIL" OF PUBLICITY

The theory that the newspapers have dealt Alabama a blow with their screaming headlines about flogging, says The Selma Times-Journal, "is to exalt the shadow above the substance."

The opprobrium comes from the acts of hooded mobs at war with constituted authority, "and not from the publicity and exploitation growing out of this lawless activity." Finally, The Times-Journal sends home this thrust: "Those who are grieved for their dear State because of the notoriety brought to it by the floggers are concerned not by what we are but by what other people think we are."

Advertiser

The Dothan Eagle, quoting The Times-Journal, declares that "a service has been done Alabama by the newspapers that have played up the floggings under big headlines, for publicity of them has not only made the citizens realize just how much barbarism has been going under cover of mask and the night, but it has also decreased the popularity of the sport of ganging one's neighbor and beating him or her up.

11-29-27

"Say what you will, we are gradually growing more and more civilized. And the pitiless ray of publicity is playing its part."

In after years many people who today denounce newsppaers instead of floggers will remember their aberration of 1927 with more or less chagrin.

Montgomery Ala.

With respect to most public questions there are two sides each of which is worthy of respectful consideration by the thoughtful citizen. But with respect to floggings by masked gangs it cannot be admitted that there are two sides to the question either of which the right-thinking citizen may respectfully consider. Masked gangism and the punishment which it inflicts upon people is essentially evil in character and no apologist for it, however conscientious he may be, can long remember with pride and satisfaction the direction which he permitted his sympathies to take.

Ku Klux Klan - 1927

EAGLE

Alabama

Dothan Ala

AUG 7 1927

ALABAMA WON'T TOLERATE IT

The conviction of Eugene Doss, one of th Kluxers in the Calloway flogging case, and hi sentence of from eight to ten years in the peni tentiary is one of the most exhilarting pieces c news that has emanated from Alabama in the las several months. Every real citizen, be he Klans man, Mason, Jew, Gentile, Negro or whatnot should take pride in the prompt, business-like man ner in which justice took charge of affairs fol owing the outrage to law and society in Oneont by a gang of Jefferson County cowards.

Those responsible for the quick conviction o Klansman Doss deserve heartiest congratulations me of whom is Attorney General Charlie McCall The Montgomery Advertiser speaks of his worl n this case as follows:

The State has not recently witnessed a finer example of manly courage and conscientious devotion to public duty than Mr. McCall has demonstrated in this case. Mr. McCall is reputed to be a Klansman and was elected to office by the Klan. At one time he was so close a friend of Jim Esdale, grand dragon of the Klan in Alabama, that but a few months ago he sought to have Esdale appointed an assistant Attorney-General. When the fact came to light that Klansmen had committed a series of outrageous floggings in Alabama within recent months, the first reported being the Calloway case, the public naturally asked, "What will McCall do now?"

The public did not have long to wait for its answer. McCall hit the hooded line hard. He pulled the mask from Jim Esdale's face and tweaked that cynical adventurer's nose. He not only publicly called on Esdale to assist in uncovering and prosecuting the floggers, but summoned Esdale as a witness. Because the Klan was known to be guilty of this attack on Jeff Calloway, McCall prosecuted the Klan without evasion, and pressed his cause until he developed the truth.

Judge O. A. Steele, who presided over the court, gave a lecture to Doss that should be read by all persons who sympathize with night-riding floggers. He said:

"Every lick that you and the members of your flogging party hit Jeff Calloway was a blow at the personal liberty of every citizen of the State.

"There is no mitigation and no justification for your crime. You have defied the fundamental principals on which our government was founded. You have tried to set yourself above the law and fix rules for the regulation of your fellow citizens. This cannot and will not be tolerated. You do not look like a bad man but you have some very bad ideas. If you and the members of your party had been sincere in wanting to see the law enforced you would have turned Calloway over to the constituted authorities.

"The evidence shows that you and your masked party came within 50 yards of the sheriff's office in Oneonta. But instead of stopping and delivering the man you had kidnapped, you continued on to the woods and inflicted punishment on him, thereby setting yourself up above the law and defying the principals declared by your forefathers when they signed the Declaration of Independence."

This trial and conviction, so intelligently and promptly conducted, will give a set-back to flogging in Alabama. When men realize that they will be sent to the penitentiary for such crimes they will think long and deep before they ride into the night on a mission to regulate some one else's conduct.

The court in Alabama has spoken clearly and firmly. Its duties and power cannot be usurped. Those who cherish the grand old State are more proud of her today than ever.

"Alabama--On She Goes!"

The onward march of Alabama continues. She has sent a number of her floggers to jail. She has set in motion a wave that will drown Tom Heflin in ridicule. And now an enlightened grand jury, finding the Ku Klux Klan guilty of "intolerable" outrages, moves unanimously for a law forbidding masking on the public highways.—St. Louis Post-Dispatch.

It is gratifying to know that people watching recent developments from the outside believe that considerable progress has been made to rid Alabama of masked lawlessness and the sinister spirit behind it.

We who are immediately in touch with the situation do not feel as sanguine as does The Post-Dispatch, although unquestionably an excellent beginning has been made. The mere conviction of the Oneonta floggers was a significant stroke. The public's refusal to take "Admiral" Heflin seriously is not to be dismissed. And the Randolph county grand jury's rebuke of maskers and their defenders was a stirring answer to those who say that Alabamians rejoice in the usurpation of the klan.

But how much more ground there would have been for feeling that floggers and their apologists are really on the run if the legislature had risen to the height of its responsibility! The failure to enact an unmasking bill which was not an empty gesture condemns this state to enormities which it would not have had to bear if those who use the lash were deprived of the coward's and the criminal's resort to the mask.

"Alabama—On She Goes!" says The Post-Dispatch as though it were greeting a conqueror. "Alabama—On She Goes!" says The Age-Herald in recognition of the work which remains to be done, of the fight which has yet to be fought, and of the faith which must be kept to win the good fight.—Birmingham Age-Herald.

KLAN TERRORISTS WARNED BY M'CALL

Three State Witnesses in Oneonta Case Advised to Repel With Force

Attorney General Charlie C. McCall has recommended to Oliver Tidwell, Walter Creel and Tom Hughes, principal state witnesses in the Oneonta flogging cases, that they repel with force if necessary, any attempts to molest or intimidate them. The attorney general made this known Tuesday, when asked concerning a report appearing in the press, to the effect that since the trials in Blount county, the three men named have been the objects of attempted intimidation by members of the Tarrant City Ku Klux Klan.

"I have advised all parties who might be affected, of their rights and that they repel with force, if necessary, any unwarranted intrusion upon the privacy of their homes or the security of their persons, and that I be fully informed of any efforts to intimidate or injure them," the attorney general said. "I have always advocated strong criminal laws to prevent obstruction of justice and to protect witnesses in criminal cases from molestation.

"No man or set of men has a legal right to molest parties who testify in the courts of the state. Every citizen has a right to protect himself from violence and intimidation. A man's house is his castle and no one may enter there save by lawful authority. No set of men has a right to parade with show of force, threatened or apparent, around the home of any resident of this state."

One of the alleged acts of intimidation referred to in the news report cited, was the parading of figures clad in the regalia of the Ku Klux Klan, in front of the home of Hughes, at Mount Pinson.

Floggings vs. Progress

In Alabama, where there have been a great many floggings; in Georgia where there have been perhaps fewer, and in Tennessee, where there have also been some masked whippings, there is encouraging evidence of a growing sentiment against the rule of mask and lash. In all three states the courts have proceeded against hooded lashers, and in several instances prison sentences have been imposed.

Belated efforts to uproot the barbarous practice of masked floggings appear to take their rise principally from public alarm over the rapid multiplication of such ourages. At any rate, the law was not called into action in Georgia and Alabama until whippings began to be so numerous that almost every citizen must have begun asking himself, with a twinge of fear, "Who'll be the next?"

The revolt against rule by hooded, night-riding floggers is, therefore, perhaps a 'safety-first" movement as much as anything else. But it is not on that account to be discounted, even though it may be a little disillusioning to realize that devotion to law and order was not sufficiently strong to stamp out the masked whipping practice in its incipiency. One reason for crushing out flogging parties is as good as another. The essential thing is that they be prevented.

Personal safety would not, however, seem to be the only consideration involved in this connection. Continued material progress and prosperity are also at stake. And unless Georgia and Alabama, and Tennessee, too, show themselves possessed of a will to eradicate the flogger and of ability to do so, they may soon feel the effects of the rule of mask and lash in their economic life.

The experience of southern Illinois in this respect should serve as a warning. It hesitated for a moment after the Herrin massacre and confessed its incompetence to punish violent crime. "Then," says Collier's, "an economic blight fell upon prosperous communities" in which the incompetence or timidity of constituted authority had "loosed every potential gang fighter in the whole territory. Eastern insurance companies refused to lend money upon the security of rich lands." And all because the report got abroad that the people of southern Illinois "had surrendered their rights to gangs of marauders and murderers."

"Two bankers at Benton," Collier's continues, "estimated that gang warfare had cost that section $20,000,000. Property owners, especially real estate holders, in every gang-infested district in the country have the same story to tell. Money flows invariably from danger to safety. Investors start a stampede that carries with it the most precious economic asset of any community, credit; and with investment safety and credit gone, only a problem of restoration is left."

Southern Illinois is paying heavily for having faltered in the face of its duty to maintain law and order. It is trying to come back, "but its children will pay the war debt for years to come." It has "set before the whole country a vivid example of the cost of timidity and indecision in a community crisis." And states infested with floggers would seem to have the option of stamping out the rule of mask and lash or of suffering economic consequences similar to those which overtook southern Illinois. For "money flows invariably from danger to safety," and there is no safety in a state of floggers.—Chattanooga Times.

FRUITS OF THE DISGUISE.

"Most intolerable conditions" exist in Randolph County, Alabama, where 17 persons have been flogged by mobs wearing white robes and masks, according to the grand jury, and nobody has been brought to justice. The county has been enduring a reign of terror that is horrible to contemplate and there is no relief in sight until the Legislature will enact a law forbidding the wearing of masks and concealing robes, in the view of the grand jury which has just made its report to the court.

The grand jury declared itself unable to obtain evidence on which to base indictments and placed the blame for the conditions upon those who defend and sponsor the wearing of the white robes and masks. "The grand jury has diligently, deeply and earnestly investigated the alleged kidnaping and flogging of citizens of this county," the grand jury tells the judge who had instructed them to make such investigation, and "most intolerable conditions" were revealed. The grand jury found that 17 persons had been whipped and that in each case the victims of these criminal activities "have been whipped in the late hours of the night by organized mobs of men wearing white robes and white masks over their faces, who traveled in automobiles with tags covered. Most of them were lashed on the naked skin with instruments of torture that in some cases left wounds, scars and bruises that the victims will apparently carry through life."

The grand jury further reported that "some of these victims, the evidence discloses, have suffered in silence without so much as consulting a physician, because of fear resulting from threats made against them by the mob if they talked." The report further declares that:

"It is the unanimous conclusion of the grand jury that the kidnaping and lashing of these victims has been done by lawless members of an organization known and called Knights of the Ku Klux Klan who have bound themselves to secrecy with reference thereto."

On "unanimous opinion of the grand jury" the report recommended that the Alabama Legislature pass laws forbidding masking on public highways and concealment of automobile license tags, further declaring that the grand jury believed that such laws would have prevented the floggings and, "even if they had occurred, with such laws existing, evidence could have been obtained on which to indict the guilty parties."

The North Carolina General Assembly of 1927 refused to pass such a law as that recommended by the Randolph County, Alabama, grand jury, as it should have done. To be sure, we haven't had any reign of terror in the Tar Heel State such as is being endured by the people of certain localities in Alabama, but it is no fault of the last Legislature that we have not had such an orgy of mob rule. The principal difference between North Carolina and Alabama, probably is that in North Carolina the number and the percentage of the population believing in the mask and robe and mob rule merely happens to be far smaller than it is in Alabama.

The report and recommendations of the Alabama grand jury constitute all the argument necessary for the enactment of law prohibiting the wearing of masks and robes of concealment on the highways and elsewhere outside of the meeting places of organizations that use such "regalia." The Klan officials claim that none of their members are permitted to wear the robe and mask outside of their Klaverns, except in occasional parades which are public and orderly and for which usually permission of local officials is obtained. Then why should the Klan object to a law prohibiting on the part of criminals what the Klan claims its members are not permitted to do?

Ala. Victims of Klan Found

Arthur Hitt and Family Living in Squalor — Forced to Sell Farm

BIRMINGHAM, Ala., Aug. 8.—Arthur Hitt, who was recently flogged by members of the Ku Klux Klan, and who afterward sold his farm of sixty acres, outside Birmingham, to J. W. Warmington, Klan leader, for $600, has been found. Real Estate men say the Negroe's land is worth at least $6,000.

Hitt and his family are living in abject squalor. He has nothing now, and says he has lost all hope for the future. His spirit is broken as a result of the lashing which cut his back and legs, leaving scars he will carry to his grave.

Hitt had lived on his little farm 35 years in peace with all the world, until the night the Ku Kluxers visited him. It was there his children were born and reared. Why Hitt was whipped has never been revealed, unless it was merely for the purpose of swindling him out of his farm by frightening him.

When visited by newspaper men, Hitt refused to discuss the flogging. He would not say whether he had received any threats from the Klan since the flogging. He has always been respected by the white people of the region for his honesty and industry. But his trust in white men has been broken by the visit of the masked men.

Hitt and his family are being protected now by county officers. The courts are investigating his case, with a view of punshing his persecutors and restoring his farm to him. He has promised to tell all he knows about his persecutors when they come to trial.

Threats have been made against the life of the prosecutor who is investigating the case.

THE HON. MR. TOMPKINS

Representative Oscar L. Tompkins of Houston, who has just lent his talents to a successful effort to save the mask, engaged in lively debate with Representative Tyler Goodwyn of Montgomery, Tuesday. Mr. Goodwyn was leading a brilliant fight to outlaw the mask so that every Alabamian could be held to personal accountability for his conduct and so that Alabamians can be protected from the evils that flow from mask-wearing. Mr. Tompkins, however, is against this—he is for regulating the use of the mask. He now favors mask-wearing provided a week's notice is given in the press of intention to hide one's face on a given occasion. That shows some progress. A few days ago when a bill to outlaw the mask was pending in committee, Mr. Tompkins helped smother it. But it is not with the soundness of Mr. Tompkins' views on the masking question that we are here concerned. It is with Mr. Tompkins' grouch against the press, or specifically The Advertiser and its Birmingham associates. On more than one occasion Mr. Tompkins has railed angrily and petulantly against these newspapers and made ungracious remarks about them, not to speak of unjust and untrue charges against them.

Mr. Tompkins, running true to form, in the debate Tuesday, returned to one of his favorite diversions, and said, according to The Advertiser's news report of his speech:

> Do you want to be driven by a servile press who present only their side of the question and who denounce all God fearing people who do not agree with them as cowards and poltroons. The press would create a political issue from which they would raise great political figures, he declared.

Mr. Tompkins is not specific, and so it is difficult to get at his grievance. His characterization of The Advertiser and associated newspapers as "servile" is merely an exercise in the art of invective, meant to be offensive. Manifestly a newspaper cannot stop to argue about every epithet hurled at it by people who do not like its ways.

But Mr. Tompkins' surly statement that these newspapers "present only their side of the question and denounce all God-fearing people who do not agree with them as cowards and poltroons," is deserving of notice.

The notice we give it is this: Oscar Tompkins knows that his statement is untrue and unjust. Mr. Tompkins knows that we know he knows The Montgomery Advertiser desires to be fair in the presentation of news; he knows that we have made no such sweeping denunciation of people who disagree with The Advertiser as he charges that we have made.

Mr. Tompkins is a man of talent and force, and in his own way is relatively sincere, although he must struggle constantly, and not by any means always successfully, to repress his instinct for demagogy. He is an honorable man, but his nature is such that he entertains a low opinion of the intellectual integrity of all people who presume to combat his views. He is suspicious of opponents and critics, particularly newspapers. The Advertiser in its interpretation of the work of the legislature naturally has printed matter that did not set well with Mr. Tompkins, but he should grant that a newspaper or anyone else is privileged to make its own interpretations so long as basic facts are faithfully reported. Mr. Tompkins has been rather generously treated in these columns, it seems to us. Certainly no member of the legislature has had more publicity than he. Certainly we are conscious of no desire to do the gentleman any injustice or deny him any reasonable request that he may make of us.

If Mr. Tompkins could persuade himself to take a little more generous view of his dissenting fellow citizens, if he could develop a little more tolerance and thus give his talents a fairer chance to develop wholesomely he might go far as a politician. But surliness, petulance and pettiness are liabilities.

Not at All Convincing

Bert Thomas, who says that he is a member of the Ku Klux Klan in Alabama, tells The Montgomery Advertiser that "he is not yet convinced that the flogging of Jeff Calloway was done by Knights of the Ku Klux Klan." In the trial of the floggers evidence was that they were members of the "Tarrant City Klavern."

It is not strange that Mr. Thomas is not convinced. It is quite as easy for non-members of the Klan who wear masks and say that they flogged a man to pretend to be members as it is for members who flog a man to deny it.

Why should anyone be convinced of any thing said by men who hide their faces?

If we were in Mr. Thomas' place we would not be convinced by the statement of any man or party of men who conceal their countenances behind masks or hoods and if he expresses a doubt that a witness who says he is a member of the "Tarrant City Klavern" is telling the truth, his doubt is perfectly natural.

It would be interesting to know whether or not The Montgomery Advertiser is convinced that Mr. Thomas is a member of the so-called "klan."

Why did not the ten thousand men who met in New York the other day to protest against the Sacco-Vanzetti sentence wear hoods?

Why do not the "Reds" and anarchists wear masks? It would greatly facilitate their activities. When a thousand men in masks are assembled, some of them might then and there throw bombs and be fairly safe from detection. Are these people braver than the "klansmen"?

A State that permits men to assemble in masks invites its own destruction. A hundred masked anarchists are a hundred times as dangerous as a hundred anarchists unmasked.—Charleston News and Courier.

Ku Klux Klan-1927

Alabama.

MASKED MARAUDERS TERRORIZE NEGROES

Reign Of Terror Revealed As Report of Youth's Death and Other Horrors Arise In Probe of Floggings In Alabama

(Special to the St. Louis Argus.)

BIRMINGHAM, Ala., Aug. 17.— A virtual reign of terror that has existed among the colored citizens of southern Ala., for some time has come to light in investigation of the epidemic of floggings by masked bands that have terrorized the section for some time. Since the report of the sensational case in which Arthur Hitt, aged farmer, was flogged and forced to sell his property for paltry sum came before the law several weeks ago, numerous others have dropped up.

Dies From Injuries

The most atrocious case that has been reported by colored Americans comes from Linden, Ala., where Luman Greathouse, 23 years old died Saturday as the results of injuries inflicted by a masked band of floggers about a month ago. The youth was seized at the Costello lumber camp where he worked and taken to a woods where he was beaten-into insensibility. He was charged with stealing automobile parts by the attackers.

Flog Doctor

In Talladega it has been revealed that Dr. W. H. Bremmett, prominent Race physician and druggist, was whipped unmercifully, because whites patronized him and that later he was forced to dispose of his property and leave the state. No action was taken by officers in the case.

At Selma, Frederick Lund, 25-year-old mill employee was flogged until unconcious. He reported the crime and has since disappeared. All efforts to locate him have been futile and authorities believe he has met foul play at the hands of floggers.

Near Wellington, Will Nelson, farmer, reported a masked party took him from his farm and gave him seventy-five lashes on his bare back. He said his assailants accused him of stealing chickens. Authorities have failed to act in this case.

Woman Is Victim

In Calhoun county, Will Rutledge and Snap Ragland, farmers, were brutally flogged by a masked band. Rutledge was accused of bootlegging. His assaultor took $46 he had in his pockets at the time of the flogging. Ragland was charged with having "too much property."

In Roanoke a woman and two men were beaten for no apparent. reasons. The three victims refused to talk because of fear of threats made by their assailants.

To Push Probe

Investigation are being made in a number of the floggings. Attorney General Chas. McCall issued a statement Monday pledging "No let up" in investigation of the floggings and prosecution of their perpetrators.

Solicitors Jim Davis, who was threatened by the Klan during his investigation of the flogging of Hitt, stated Monday that he expected to stage one of the most sweeping blows that has yet been made against the masked outlaws. James Esdale, grand dragon of the K. K. K. in Ala., is expected to be called in Davis' probe.

Pass Anti-Mask Bill

The Tompkins bill, which provides that any personh who flog, whip or assault any other person while their faces are concealed shall be imprisoned in the penitentiary from one to 10 years was passed by the House of Representatives Tuesday at Montgomery by a vote of 92 to 1. A substitute measure was defeated.

CRENSHAW FLOGGING TRIAL POSTPONED

Hearing for Charlie Helms is Re-Set Until October 3

LUVERNE, ALA., Sept. 5.—Special to The Advertiser.—The trial of Charlie Helms, Crenshaw county man, charged with assault and battery in connection with an alleged attack upon Hamp Kendricks, Luverne negro, by masked men, was postponed today until October 3.

Kendricks is said to have been seized by a group of masked men near a negro church near Luverne six weeks ago. The negro said he was struck over the head when he elected buying liquor from a white man. He said he recognized Helms as a member of the party.

LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER THREATENED

"Lay off the Hitt Case." This laconic message in the form of a threat has been given to the prosecuting attorney's office in Jefferson County. It bears on the recently much discussed case of Arthur Hitt, who was flogged by unknown parties and afterward sold his land for $900.00 to W. J. Worthington. The inference is that the grand jury investigation of the Hitt case soon to be under way might link together the flogging of Hitt and the sale of the land and place the responsibility for it on the same parties.

The large number of cases of this kind of recent occurrence have brought down the voice of the press and the pulpit in Alabama in a demand for decency. The demand is persistent; it comes from those sources of influence and power where public opinion is bred.

At the time when these outrages are frequent, there is much agitation for laws that will stop them but the practice has become so deep-rooted that one cannot be as certain of results as they might have been years ago when it was forming and Negroes were the only sufferers. This week of trials and investigations in Blount and Jefferson Counties opened with threats against Solicitor Jim Davis, who is known as an able, fearless and impartial prosecutor. Mr. Davis has chosen to meet the challenge of his enemies by calling them before the grand jury to tell what they know. His answer to the threat came in the form of a public statement, a part of which follows:

"Monday afternoon an officer of the Ku Klux Klan and another man called on me and warned that unless I laid off the Hitt case I was going to get into trouble.

"At a special session of the Jefferson County Grand Jury next Tuesday I am going to give the names of the Klan official and the man who came with him to my office a chance to tell what they know to the grand jury."

It is interesting to note that the recent outburst of lawless raidings is extensive and that the resistance to the constituted authority is becoming more defiant.

The shamelessness of it becomes more apparent when the helplessness of the victims is taken into account.

The extent of it is greater than the public has knowledge of because of the moral fear that threatens the victims and causes them to go to other parts without making their experiences known. What the law enforcement agencies can do about it remains to be shown. The Legislature, now in session, has under consideration some measures to put a stop to it but the question of its passage is as much in the balance as the bringing to justice of the parties alleged to be known.

The return of Emory Cobb, Oneonta Negro, whose wife was killed by raiders in his home some months ago to give evidence at the Blount County trial brings up the fact that many other cases as hideous as the Calloway or the Hitt cases have passed out of memory because of fear from threats toward those interested in having them prosecuted.

Cobb had fled to Cleveland for safety and now agrees to return to give evidence under the proper protection.

Booker T. Washington's Prophesy

During the past week I have read several news stories in the Sun paper giving account of the flogging of white and colored people in various parts of the State of Alabama. Such stories revert my memory to the excerpts of a speech made by the lamented Booker T. Washington in Birmingham, Ala., twenty-three years ago before an audience composed of the leading white and colored citizens of the State.

Said Dr. Washington: "My [illegible] is not simply for the protection of members of my race who are [illegible], burned and flogged with impunity by those who take the law in their own hands. I am appealing to you Christian white men and women of the South to protect my people against this injustice for your own safety.

"Just as sure as you allow injustice to be perpetrated against my people with impunity the day is coming when those who are allowed to deal out injustice against my poor, defenseless people will turn on you. Just as sure as you live you will not be able to protect members of the white race from mob violence if you allow matters to remain as they are. The South cannot prosper so long as a certain group within its bounds are subjected to injustice, and so long as it is dominated by mob spirit."

It is reasonable and logical to ask: Has the day come?—From The Baltimore Sun.

W. T. PHILLIPS FACES COURT IN MARENGO'S PROBE OF WHIPPING

First Defendant Held To Grand Jury Without Bond; Two Alleged Klansmen Make Bond in Blount

LINDEN, ALA., Aug. 24.—Special to The Advertiser.—W. T. Phillips, the second of a group of four men charged with murder in connection with the death of Luman Greathouse, negro who died last month as a result of pneumonia brought about as a result of a flogging by an unmasked band went on trial here today.

Chris Ray, his alleged companion was bound over yesterday at the conclusion of a hearing which lasted all day. He was held to the grand jury without bond.

Rennie Phillips and George Glass are held in the jail without bond in connection with the affair. Unless a compromise is reached by which Phillips and Glass may be tried separately it is probable that the trial will continue through Thursday.

Luman Greathouse, a young negro was taken from the Costello Construction camp early in July and flogged until unconscious. The alleged floggers charged that he had stolen some parts of an automobile, it was said.

A few hours after the flogging the negro developed traumatic pneumonia and was unconscious for about ten days. The attending physician stated that pneumonia was caused by the beating. The negro died about three weeks later.

K. K. K. BITTER TOWARD THE DARKER RACES

Ku Klux Klan Secret News Paper Preaches Dark Race Extermination

LOS ANGELES, Sept. 1 (ANP) —Regarldess of the fact that the Klan is losing ground all over the country, the Coast Klans are as bitter towards the darker races as ever. This was disclosed by the acquisition of a secretly published Klan news paper which contained the article below.

According to presumably reliable statistics, the Brown, Yellow, and Black men outnumber the White men by the enormious total of 320,000,000.

It is only by the use of some simple illustration that the mind can grasp such a figure; in fact, one must say to himself ten hundred thousand before he can realize just how much a single million is, and when it comes to dealing with tens and hundreds of milions it becomes bewildering.

"Now for convenience, let us lop off the little matter of 20,000,000 and say that the white men are outnumbered by an even 300,000,000. California has 158,360 square miles of territory. We must place on each square mile 1,894 persons and after the distribution was made still have left an army of 66,160.

"We have seen some big crowds at the beaches. On a hot summer day we might find 100,000 people scattered along the beach between Santa Monica and Venice. California's coast line is but little short of 1,000 miles, so we will use that figure and allot a mile of beach to 100,000 persons. That would be 1,000,000 every ten miles; 10,000,000 every hundred miles. When the entire 1,000 miles of coast was used up we would still have two-thirds of this vast multitude left; enough for two thousand additional miles of sea coast Think of it!

"Let us presume that this vast hodde of Brown, Yellow and Black is landing on the Pacific Coast and marching eastward, ten men abreast at intervals of ten feet, one hundred men each minute. How would you like the job of keeping tally. At a rough guess how long would your job last, putting ten hours à day seven days a week? Procure a goodly of paper and pencils, provide for yourself an easy chair for, if you do not fall down on the job, you will not need to look for another for quite a spell. Jotting down 100 every minute your jjob would be lost for thirteen years, thirty-eight weeks and two days.

"Preposterous you say! Figure it out for yourself. 100 a minute, 6000 an hour, 60,000 a day of ten hours, 420,000 a week. Calling a year just fifty-two weeks, only 21,840,000 would have marched past in that length of time. By adding a cipher we find that in ten years 218,400,000 are accounted for, leaving 81,600,000 to follow before this enormous multitude would have passed.

"This column of men marching ten men abreast at intervals of ten feet would be a little over fifty-six thousand, eight hundred and eight ten miles in length and would reach more than twice around the earth.

"And here is the point I want to make: if this horde were all to be drowned in the Pacific there would still remain enough of these races to equal the white race.

"Scratch your head, white man rub your eyes; see if you can pluck aside just a trifle the veil and peer down the long corridor of time ahead of your color. And don't brag to much about White Supremacy.'

"The study of the rise, progress decline and fall of nations is fascinating one. But what of those nations or people of whom there remains not eve na tradition? From whence they came and what became of them? Archtectural remains, sculpture, art, mute evidence of a high state of intelligence and civilization, but the builders, the artists, vanished in the mists of by gone centuries.

The North American Indian know naught of the Mound Builders who preced him, nor did he know from whence he came himself. Through Utah, Colorada, and especially in Arizona, and New Mexico anr found ample evidence of a vanished civilization. The character of their buildings, the remains of irrigation canals, the uncounted thousands of hierglyphics and innumerable specimens of pottery and implements all attest the fact that a dense population once existed i nsections later occuuied by Indians who in turn are giving way to the white man who now occupies the stage to play his part in the great drama.

"From the White man, the Brown, Yellow and Black have learned much of the deadly science of warfare. They have learned how to manufacture and to use the weapons with which the White men have been killing each other off. The White man's superior military power is far from what it used to be. He is no lnoger feared as much as he once was, nor does he command the respect he did year ago. Nor is this all; here in the United States he is exterminating himself with poison booze and narcotics.

"About ten years ago I frequently noticed two homes; one belonged to an American citizen, the other occupied by a Japanese family. In each a little girl played about the yard. Ten years later the white girl was still alone while about the humble home of the brown man eight children romped. Multiply this case by hundreds if you desire and you will not be exaggerating in the least.

"Time has no ending. Times goes on and on. It is not beyond the realms of possibility that sometime in the distant future the Pacific Coast will be the stage whereon the white man of this country will fight his last fight.

THE DUTY OF CLERGYMEN, EDITORS AND BANKERS

Mr. J. D. Murphree, cashier of the First National Bank of Troy writes the following letter to the editor of The Alabama Baptist, copy of which he sends to the editor of The Advertiser:

> I note that The Montgomery Advertiser has taken a fall out of you in today's issue. Don't pay any attention to this young man. Now and then some unregenerate rises up to tell Christian preachers what to preach. Just history repeating itself, and take into consideration his environment. He knew before he wrote his little piece that you were against all law-breaking and all brutality, including prize-fighting. Bad boys always have liked to annoy their God-fearing elders. So sit steady, don't worry about rocks thrown from the outside.

We presume to suggest to Mr. Murphree that since he has issued a public statement bearing upon the dozen or so floggings by masked gangs in different parts of Alabama he has missed an opportunity in not including an expression of his opinion of the floggings. His opinion of the editor of The Advertiser is amusingly stated, but it is not pertinent to the present issue in Alabama. The editor is not on trial. He hasn't assisted in the flogging of anybody. All he has done is to cry out against these outbreaks of cruelty and anarchy in Alabama, and to condemn those who although it is within the line of their professional duty to raise their voices against barbarism have nevertheless evaded that duty.

We commend to Mr. Murphree a reading of two sermons by Christian ministers delivered in Montgomery Sunday. Said Dr. Herbert Carson, pastor of the Trinity Presbyterian church:

> Shall the church not heed the voice of blood as it cries from the soil of Alabama? I dare to make this plea in the name of Christ. Such lawlessness in Alabama must be stopped. I would blush with shame if the church did not heed the voices of those helpless people who have been whipped. The obligation to do away with masked night riders is peculiarly placed upon the shoulders of the church. Many of the atrocities were done in the name of the church. One of them at least was begun when a boy was taken by masked men as they left the church and at the very door of the church itself.

Dr. Donald McGuire, pastor of the First Presbyterian church of Montgomery, in an equally vigorous arraignment of night riding gangsters, declared:

> The question is one of honor and humanitarianism. It is one of common decency, of morality, and of Christianity. On such a question the church canont be silent without stultifying itself. As a minister of Christ I am duty-bound to speak against such cowardly attacks and I believe my church is with me when I take this stand.
>
> I do not know who is guilty of this inhuman and barbaric conduct. It matters not. They may be in the church, but they are not of it. They have certainly not caught the spirit of the lowly Nazarene who always sympathized with the weak and helpless.

Certainly it is the duty of all who concern themselves with public opinion to throw the weight of their influence against such barbarity. It will not do for gentlemen in influential places, whether bankers editors, clergymen, judges or statesmen, to be indifferent about this condition on the theory that it will presently correct itself without the benefit of leadership.

What Alabama sorely needs at this fateful hour is an indignant outcry from the united voices of leaders in all walks of life—such an outcry as will lead to the lawful punishment of those already guilty, and put the fear of God into all others who may contemplate assisting in a few floggings —that is to say, those who flog in the name of the church, in the name of the sanctity of the home, in the name of law and order, and in the name of Americanism!

All the editors, all the clergymen and all the bankers of Alabama presumably are in agreement that flogging is an unmitigated evil. What The Advertiser takes it upon itself to suggest is that all of them should likewise be in agreement that now is the time to denounce the evil and seek a cure.

Ku Klux Klan - 1927 I Alabama

ISSUE ATTACHMENT TO FORCE ESDALE TO APPEAR AS WITNESS

Whipped Boy Hesitatingly Tells How He Was Taken From Small Church and Lashed

M'CALL SEEKS TO THROW BLAME ON KU KLUX KLAN

Rural Visitors Make Hearing For Holiday, Crowding Into Little Courtroom

ONEONTA, ALA., Aug. 2.—Special to The Advertiser.—The prosecution played two of its trump cards in the Eugene Doss flogging trial here Tuesday when Jeff Calloway, lash victim, told how a band of robed and masked men whipped him on the night of June 26 and John Thomas Hughes, member of the whipping party, related the story of how members of the Tarrant City klan staged the lashing.

Advertiser

These two graphic stories were the features of the second day of Alabama's most sensational trial of the year, the strongest gesture the state has ever made to end rule by "mask and lash."

8-3-27

In addition to the disclosures made while Calloway and Hughes were on the stand, Judge O. A. Steele issued a writ of attachment calling for the arrest of James Esdale, grand dragon of the Alabama Knights of the Ku Klux Klan.

Montgomery Adv. 8-3-27

Up until a late hour Tuesday night Esdale had not arrived in Oneonta despite reports from his office saying that he had left Birmingham for this place.

The Jefferson county sheriff's office was ordered to arrest him.

Calloway, in a statement that was excluded from the ears of the jury, told the story of the actual flogging, and the events leading up to it, but said that he failed to recognize any of the men in the masked band.

John Thomas Hughes, an automobile salesman, who says he joined the Tarrant City klan two months ago and who says he drove one of the automobiles in the party that took Calloway out, was the second star witness, and his testimony implicated not only the man now on trial, but Dr. F. S. Fennell, alleged exalted cyclops of the Tarrant City klan, and several others.

Cross-examination of Hughes was the first thing on the program for Wednesday morning.

Hughes said that he attended the meeting of the Tarrant City klan on the Thursday night before the flogging, when Dr. Fennell told the klavern that he had received an invitation from the Antioch church to attend its services on June 26. Although a resident of Mount Pinson, he says he went to Tarrant City, was joined there by Doss, Covington and a man named Carlisle, and one of the Claytons, with whom he drove to Cheney's quarry, where they donned hoods and robes, then proceeding to Antioch.

The car, a green Chevrolet touring car, had been sold to Clayton some time before by Hughes, the witness said. When the party left Antioch church as a member of the whipping party, Clayton was driving, the witness said, and all the occupants wore uniforms but one, he said. Other cars in the group included a Ford roadster, a Ford touring car, and another Chevrolet.

After attempts by the defense to shake Calloway's testimony, Dr. Marvin Denton, of Oneonta, said that the witness appeared cowed and afraid because of his confinement in jail. Calloway suffered a nervous breakdown June 27, he said, in answer to attempts of the defense to prove the orphan boy's mental condition unsatisfactory.

On cross-examination Tuesday, Calloway had amitted that he had taken three or four drinks on the night of the flogging, but denied beating on the church window with a bottle of whisky. These questions were asked and answered while the jury was out of the room.

Advertiser

A. J. Glaze, of Tarrant City, and a member of the klan there, had admitted earlier in the day that he was at Antioch church on the night of the flogging, but denied any knowledge of the affair.

8-3-27

When court reconvened at 1:30 p. m. Judge Wilkinson began to cross-examine Jeff Calloway. He attempted to show by the witness, that he was drinking and had liquor in his possession at Antioch church the night of the assault upon him.

The state objected and Judge Wilkinson asked that the jury be excused while he stated the points he expected to make. While the jury was out, Calloway, in answering the questions of Judge Wilkinson, denied cursing the masked and robed men at the church or of knocking on the church window with a whisky bottle. The court ruled against the admission of his testimony.

Calloway said that he did not go into the church and that he had been in front of the church about half hour when the men took him away.

The jury was recalled and Judge Wilkinson resumed the cross-examination.

"Did you curse any of the men walking around in robes?"

"No."

"Did you have any conversation with the men in the car on the way to Oneonta."

"I did not."

"You did not say anything to the men on the way to Oneonta from Antioch church or did they say anything to you?"

"I have no recollection of it."

"Did you curse any of the men in the car?"

Exception sustained, the jury was recalled and the cross-examination of the witness resumed.

Attorney Wilkinson: "Had you been drinking that night?"

(Calloway): "Yes."

"How many drinks had you taken?"

"Two or three."

"Larger or smaller?"

"About two or three swallows each."

"Did you have a drink before you got to the church?"

"Yes."

"About how long before?"

"About 20 minutes."

"What kind of liquor was it? White or red?"

"A little bit yellow."

"Did it have much kick to it?"

"Not very much."

"Where were you when you say the guns were pointed at you?"

"Near the church."

"How many men were there?"

"Four or five."

The witness was now permitted to testify what was said by him.

"Where were you when the men seized you?"

"At a little new shack back of the church."

"Did you have any conversation with the men on the way down from Oneonta to where the car stopped for you all to get out?"

"Yes, I asked for a cigarette."

"Did they give it to you?"

"No."

"What else was said?"

"I asked what time it was."

"What did they say?"

"They said that they had no time."

"How did you get out of the car?"

"They opened the door and I just got out."

"Where did you go?"

"Out into the woods.

"Did you go by yourself?"

"No."

"When you got into the woods, did they begin whipping you right away?"

"Yes."

"While whipping you, did they say anything?"

"They asked me how long I had been bootlegging to these boys."

"What did you say?"

"I said that I didn't do anything like that."

"Did you say to anyone of the men in the party that they had enough whisky for evidence and asked them to give back what they had taken from you?"

Objection sustained. Answering Judge Wilkinson's question, Calloway said that the first person that he talked to about the flogging were the people where he spent the night, at Mt. Pinson and Oneonta the next morning. He said that he had no recollection as to the time when he talked to an officer about the whipping. He said that he did not know the officers with whom he talked.

Attorney Wilkinson: "Did you tell the officers that you didn't know whether you were whipped, that you were so drunk that you did not know what happened?"

Obpection sustained.

"Have you had a conversation with a law officer here in Oneonta relative to a settlement of this case?

Objection sustained.

"Do you know your reputation for truth and veracity in the community where you have lived?"

Objection sustained.

"Where have you been the last few days."

Objection sustained.

"Has anyone promised to release you as soon as this case is over?"

Objection sustained.

Several questions to test the memory of the witness were asked by both sides but were ruled out by the court. One of these by Judge Wilkinson: "Where did you get the liquor?"

Calloway left the witness stand at 2:55 p. m. after a grilling of nearly two hours.

Badly Bruised.

Dr. Marvin Denton, of Oneonta, 23 years practicing medicine, said he met Calloway in the O. K. barber shop about 11 a. m., June 27, and that he examined Calloway at that time. He said that he found Calloway bruised and swollen about the back and legs. He said he could not tell what kind of instrument had made these bruises but that they were caused by licks. He said he saw bruises, stripes, swellings, soreness on Calloway's back, side and thighs but that he couldn't tell how many stripes becuse some of them blended. Some of the stripes, he said, were blue, some red. He estimated that there were 30 or 35 stripes or marks on his back. Two or three of them were cut through the skin.

Dr. Denton said that Calloway had the appearance of a cowed condition but that he did not know whether or not the condition was chronic.

To a question of the court, Dr. Denton said the wounds on Calloway's back and legs were such as would have been made by whipping.

The witness said that he had seen nothing about Calloway to indicate his mentality was subnormal.

On cross examination, Dr. Denton said that a person kept in jail would have a hang dog expression. The court in overruling the state's objection said Calloway was in jail. He is being held as a witness in these cases, it was explained by attorney of the state.

Had Nervous Breakdown.

Dr. Denton said that he had treated Calloway for a breakdown subsequent to June 27, and he attributed the breakdown to the flogging.

Andrew J. Glaze, of Tarrant City, Cement company employe, said he knew Eugene Doss but didn't know just how long.

"Did you go to Antoich church on the night of June 26?"

"Yes Sir."

"Did you go in robe and mask? Didn't you go in Clayton's car?"

No, sir."

"What kind of a car did you go in?"

"In an Oldsmobile."

"Did you see Doss at Antioch church hat night?"

"No."

"Did you see him that night?"

"No."

Didn't Know Calloway.

The witness said that he went to Antioch church with Ira Davis in Davis' car and that they were among the last to leave the building. He added that he did not see Calloway that night and that he did not know him, he and Davis went back to Tarrant City together.

Mr. McCall asked permission to ask direct questions, saying that he had been taken by surprise. He said he had been led to believe the witness had been in the seat with Clayton.

"Is it not a fact that you rode on the back seat with Clayton?"

"I certainly did not. I knew nothing about the flogging until I saw it in The Birmingham News, and I didn't know it then."

"Have you been approached by anyone about what you would say here?"

"No."

He said he left home that night to go to Antioch church.

The next witness for the state was John Thomas Hughes, of Mt. Pinson. He said he is an automobile salesman, selling Chevrolets, and that he knows Eugene Doss.

"Are you a member of the Ku Klux Klan?"

"Yes."

"Are you a member of the Tarrant City Klavern?"

"Yes, I joined about two months ago."

"At any of the meetings you attended did you hear any invitation to attend Antioch church?"

"Yes."

"Who told about the invitation?"

"Dr. L. S. Fennell."

"How long before June 26, 1927, was that?"

"The Thursday night before."

"Did you see a one armed preacher at the meeting?"

"Yes."

"Did you hear anything about a preacher going to Antioch church?"

"Yes, the one armed preacher agreed to go."

"Is Eugene Doss a member of the Klan?"

"Yes."

"Have you seen him in the meetings or the halls of the Tarrant City Klavern?"

"Yes."

The witness said he had been a member of the Tarrant City Klavern for about two months. He said that Doss' cape was dark blue and his robe white.

"Did you go to the church at Antioch the night of June 26?"

"Yes."

"How?"

"In a new Chevrolet touring car."

"Were you at home in Mt. Pinson at any time on the afternoon of June 26?"

"Yes, part of the time."

"Did you drive your car from Mt.

Pinson to Tarrant City?

"Yes."

"When you went to Tarrant City what did you do?"

"Stayed there 30 or 40 minutes."

"Did you go to the Klan hall at Tarrant City?"

"I went upstairs in the building but did not go into the hall."

"Did you see Eugene Doss?"

"I saw him in the street. I went upstairs, got my robe and went back downstairs."

"Was Eugene Doss in your car when you went to Antioch church?"

"Yes."

The witness said they stood around 10 or 15 minutes and then some of them went into the church but he did not go."

"Where was Doss?"

"He stood by my car."

"Did you stay there until church services were over?"

"Yes."

"Did you know Jeff Calloway?"

"No."

"Did you see him there that night?"

"I saw a man I was told was Jeff Calloway."

"What did you do after you left church?"

"Drove back towards Mt. Pinson."

"Was Eugene Doss on the front seat with you?"

"Yes."

"Who else was in your car?"

"Carlisle, Clayton, Doss and another man I didn't know."

"Did you see Clayton?"

"Yes."

"What kind of car?"

"Green Crevrolet car."

"Did you see anybody get in Clayton's car?"

"Yes, several of them."

"All in robes?"

"All but one. Didn't hear his name."

"The green Chevrolet and other cars left ahead of the witness, he said. The green car leading."

"We stayed there 15 or 20 minutes and then left."

"Doss and I left together in my car, Doss sitting in the seat with me. Others in the car were Carlisle, Chester Clayton and Covington."

"When we came downstairs I took Covington to his home where he got his robe and mask. We returned to the street in front of the hall where Doss, Carlisle and Clayton got in the car. We drove to Cherry's Quarry where we put on our robes and masks. Two of three men were standing there. A man in a white robe and blue cap motioned us to turn to the left when we got to Cherry's Quarry. There was a bunch there with robes on."

Mr. McCall: "Did Eugene Doss put on his robe there?"

"Yes sir."

"After we put on our robes we got back in my car, Doss and the others, Carlisle, Clayton and Covington, and followed the other cars back into the highway."

"Then where did you go?"

"To Oneonta."

"Was Eugene Doss in your car when you got to Oneonta?"

"Yes".

"Did you stop in Oneonta?"

"Yes."

"Where? On the main street I suppose.."

"Yes."

"Then what happened?"

"We went to Antioch church."

"Did you stop anywhere between Oneonta and Antioch church?"

"Yes."

"Did anybody get out of your car?"

"No."

From Antioch church, he said, the cars went to Oneonta. From Oneonta they prodeeded to the spot where Calloway is said to have been flogged. Hughes did not get out of his car saying L. A. Calloway of the green Chevrolet came back and administered an oath to him to keep secret until death what had transpired there. Doss and all the others went into the woods.

At the Cheney's quarry, where they took off their robes, Hughes said that Doss administered the oath again.

Hughes said that when at the Jefferson county courthouse to be question by the attorney general. Doss and Clayton asked what he had told the attorney general. And when informed that he had told of being at Antioch church and over to the place where they stopped and took the man in overalls, M. A. Clayton drew his finger across his throat saying "Lookout."

He said that several persons had warned him to keep quiet about the matter, naming L. A. Clayton as one of them, Doss another and one man had threatened his life if he told. He said that several persons had been to him since June 26, 1927, asking him not to talk about what had happened several klansmen, he said, had called and warned him not to say anything about the matter.

Jeff Calloway was brought and identified by Hughes as the man in the green Chevrolet car the night of June 30.

Court adjourned at 5 p. m. until 8:30 Wednesday morning.

Calloway was called to the stand at 11:30 a. m. and the direct examination was finished at noon, and the court adjourned until 1:30 p. m. Calloway testified that he lived in Etowah county, one and a half miles from the Blount county line, with Edgar Jackson. He said that on June 26 he went to the Antioch church with Jackson. In the car with them was Jackson's wife.

Q. When did you leave Antioch church that night?

A. About 9:30.

Q. Did you ride or walk away?

A. Rode.

Q. What kind of car?

A. Chevrolet.

Q. Touring car?

A. Yes.

Q. What was the color of the car?

A. Green.

Q. Did you ride in the front or rear of the car?

A. In the rear seat.

Q. Who rode in the seat with you?

A. Two men. Don't know who they were. They had white masks over their faces and white robes over their shoulders. They never raised their masks while in the car. Two robed men were on the front seat and two robed and masked men were on the running boards, one on each side. I knew none of them.

Q. How come you to get in the car?

A. They carried me to the car.

Q. Who carried you?

A. Don't know.

Q. Did the men in the car or any of them carry you to the car or put you in it?

A. My recollection is they did.

Q. Did you get in the car of your own free will and accord?

Objection by the defense was sustained.

Q. How did you happen to get in the car?

A. They carried me to the car.

Q. What did they do before they struck two guns against your breast?

Q. Did they say anything to you?

A. They said "Stick 'em up!"

Q. Were they wearing robes and masks?

A. Yes.

Q. Did you know them?

A. No.

Q. How long did they keep the guns against your breast?

A. A minute or two.

Q. Then what did they do to you? Or with you? Did anyone strike you when they told you to "stick 'em up?"

A. Yes, with a flashlight on the head after they said "stick 'em up."

Q. Then what did they do with you?

A. Carried me to the car, one man on each side, holding me by the arms. There were other robed and masked men along.

Q. When the men took hold of your arms, after they hit you with the flashlight and poked the gun at your breast, where did they carry you to?

A. To the car.

Q. Did they say anything to you at the car?

A. Get in.

Q. Did you get in?

A. Yes.

Q. Then what did they do?

A. One man left and went around like he was looking for something, and then came back to the car.

Q. Then what happened?

Left and Returned

A. He left again and came back again. Then the car left and came to Oneonta, then it went on to the main highway. I suppose towards Birmingham, about 22 miles from Oneonta. There we got off the main highway to the left and down the side road about a mile. The same robed figures were in the car then.

Q. What happened then?

A. We stopped.

Q. And what happened then?

A. The robed and masked men got out of the car and to my best recollection the men in the car took me out. They took me to the left of the road, down about 30 yards.

Q. And then what did they do to you?

A. They led me up to a sapling, put my arms around it, one man on each side, and each man pulling at my arms.

Q. Then what happened?

A. They cut some hickory switches about three feet long and then they began whipping me.

Q. Where did they hit you?

A. On the legs and back.

Q. Were the men holding your hands robed and masked.

A. Yes.

Q. Were the men who cut the switches robed and masked?

A. Yes.

Q. Were the men who hit you robed and masked?

A. Yes.

Q. How many people were there when they whipped you?

A. Don't know.

Asked About Still

Q. Did they ask you any questions or say anything to you while whipping?

A. Yes. They asked, "where is your still?"

Q. What else?

A. How long have you been bootegging to these boys?

Q. Were these people whipping you while asking you these questions?

A. They asked the questions while my arms were around the sapling.

Q. How long did they whip you?

A. Don't know.

Q. What did they do with you when they got through whipping you?

A. Told me to run.

Q. Anybody try to shoot at you?

Objection was sustained.

Q. While your arms were around the tree, did anybody point a gun at you?

A. Not that I know.

Q. Did you run when they told you to?

A. Yes sir.

Q. How far did you run?

Ran As Commanded.

A. About 30 yards.

Q. Then what?

A. I sat down.

Q. Did they run after you?

A. No.

Q. Did you see them any more after they got through whipping you?

A. No.

Q. Which way did they go?

A. They went to the car.

Q. Which way did they go in the car?

A. Back to the main highway.

Q. Was there another car at the place where they hit you?

A. Yes, and men in robes and masks were in it. They came behind the car I was in.

Q. Was the car behind the one you were in the Chevrolet?

A. I don't know.

Returned To Road.

Q. After you sat down, did you ever get back to where the car was?

A .I got back to the road.

Q. Did you see a car there then?

A. No.

Q. Where did you go when you got to the side road?

A. To the main highway.

Q. Then where did you go?

A. To Mount Pinson.

Q. Were you bleeding any then?

A. No.

Q. Did you stay all night at Mt. Pinson?

A. Yes.

Q. With whom did you stay?

A. Don't know.

Q. When did you leave Mt. Pinson?

A. The next morning.

Q. Where did you go?

A. Oneonta.

Q. Did you see a doctor in Oneonta?

A. Yes. Dr. Marvin Denton.

Q. Has he treated you since then for the same trouble.

All of the veniremen not engaged in the Doss case were instructed by the court to stay out of the court room during the trial, the court saying that the jury to try the other cases would have to be selected from among their number. Judge Steele also, cautioned witnesses to give direct answers to questions and when they had answered to stop. He said he was tired of listening to witnesses evade questions. He also instructed the sheriff to station a deputy in the witness room to prevent any confusion which might arise.

Pleads Not Guilty.

It was then 10 a. m. and Doss was arraigned before the bar and Circuit Solicitor W. G. Rains read the indictment against Doss. Doss pleaded not guilty. Judge Wilkinson, for the defense, obected to the state making an opening statement and excepted when the court overruled the objection.

Assistant Attorney General Haynes stated the case for the state. He related the story of Jeff Calloway's experience, saying he was taken by a band of hooded and masked men from the Antoch church, put into an automobile and taken to Jefferson county and there severely whipped.

The defense objected to the statement as being prejudical, but the court overruled the objection and Wilkinson excepted. Two bailiffs were sworn and placed in charge of the jury and instructed to see that no one talked to the jury and that the jury did not read the daily papers.

W. C. Jackson, 23, of Etowah county, the first witness called by the state, said he had known Jeff Calloway for 12 or 15 years, that Calloway lived with Edgar E. Jackson, a brother of the witness. He was with Calloway on June 26. Jackson said he went to Antioch church with Calloway the night of June 26, and that they got there by 8 p. m.

Q. Whom did you see there that you knew?

A. A number of people.

Q. Did you see Jeff Calloway?

A. Yes, he went there with me, my wife, my mother and my sister, who were in the car with me. Jeff was in my brother's car, with my brother, his wife and his cousin.

Q. How long did Calloway stay here?

A. An hour or an hour and a half Then men put him in the car and took him away.

Q. What time did they leave?

A. Somewhere about 10 o'clock. I am not positive as to the time, because have no watch.

Q. Did you know that they put him in the car?

Saw Him In Car.

A. I saw him in the car, a Chevrolet touring car, painted green. Jeff was on the rear seat. I don't know who was on the seat with him. I saw masked and robed men in the church. Right at the winding up of the church services I saw Jeff Calloway in the car with the robed and masked men. Two robed and masked men were on the seat with him. They had on white robes and masks. A man in white robe and mask was at the wheel and another was sitting by him. One robed and masked man was standing on the running board on each side. That makes six robed and masked men in the car.

Q. Did you have any conversation with Jeff Calloway while he was in the car with the men?

A. No, for when I saw them they were leaving. I had no conversation with them for when I saw them they were leaving. There was no license tag on the car, or, if it was, I could not see it. The masks worn by the men were not all alike.

Some had red around the bottom of the hood and others blue. The man at the steering wheel wore an all white robe, to the best of my recollection. I was 10 or 15 feet away from them when they drove by me. I saw it was a Chevrolet car then. When I saw

Ku Klux Klan - 1927

II

Alabama

Jeff in the car with the men, I went back to my car and my brother's car. We got in our cars and followed them to Oneonta. Two more cars were in line. There was a five passenger old Ford, a new Chevrolet touring car, and my brother's and mine. In the Chevrolet were four or five masked and robed men. The Chevrolet was a blue, 1927 model, and there were four or five masked and robed men in the Ford.

Q. What became of the car that Jeff Calloway was in in Oneonta?

A They turned at the courthouse and we went on to McPherson's store and when we came to the courthouse the car was gone. I don't know where it went. The last I saw of it, it was in the main part of town, coming toward the courthouse. The masked and robed men were in the car then. We made no attempt to follow them any further. I last saw the car Calloway was in between 10 and 11 p. m. that night, and I didn't see it any more until the next morning. I saw him the next morning at the O. K. Barber shop about 8 a. m. the next day.

Boy Badly Bruised

Q. (By McCall) What was Calloway's condition when you saw him in the O. K. Barber shop?

A. Bad bruises from the shoulders to the feet.

Q. Who was with him in the barber shop?

A. Don't know. There were several in there.

Q. How did you know there were bruises and welts on his back?

A. I looked at him, he showed them to me.

Q. Did he make any complaint the night before of bruises on his back or legs?

A. No.

Q. Do you know who conducted the services at the Antioch church that night?

A. Three men talked. All had on robes and masks. The first one to talk took off his mask, but I didn't know him.

Q. Do you know John Wade?

A. Yes, I know him, but I didn't see him that night.

Q. Do you know Dr. Fennell?

A. No.

Q. Do you know Dr. A. A. Waldon?

A. Yes, but he didn't preach while I was there. I didn't see him.

Cross Examination

On cross examination the witness said the service was in progress at the Antioch church when he arrived. He said he saw Calloway go towards the well 50 to 100 yards from the church, and saw several hooded and robed men follow him. He went to the well the second time, and four of the masked men were with him. From the well he went to the school house, the masked men following him. He said Calloway got into the car with him at his brother's house.

The counsel for the defense asked the witness if Calloway was drinking, the state objecting. This was sustained by the court, the defense saving the exception. On question as to whether Calloway took a drink or had any liquor in his possession, the court would not permit an answer when the state objected.

Judge Wilkinson asked several questions in rapid fire order along this line, and therefore Judge Steele asked Judge Wilkinson if he meant that if Calloway was drinking or had liquor in his possession it was any excuse for the infliction of the punishment given Calloway. Judge Wilkinson responded very promptly "No, not at all." Several other questions regarding drinking and possession of liquor brought a reprimand from the court.

The witness said he did not hear anyone in the car say anything. He said there were between 75 and 100 robed figures in the church that night.

METHODIST LEADER URGES PASSAGE OF ANTI-MASK BILL

John S. Chadwick, Former Editor of Christian Advocate, Says Ware Bill Worse Than No Legislation

CONDEMNS MASK AS THREAT TO STRIKE IN DARKNESS

Urges Adoption of Williams Bill in Interest of Government and Christianity

Holding that the Ellis-Ware substitute for the Williams' anti-masking bill would be of less benefit at this time than no legislation at all, John S. Chadwick, secretary treasurer of the Christian Education movement of the Alabama and north Alabama conferences of the Methodist Episcopal church, South, in a letter addressed to the editor of The Advertiser, declared that the mask and robe should go. Mr. Chadwick is former editor of The Christian Advocate."

"It is not an over-statement of the case," he said, "to say that for those outside the Klan—in the larger number of Alabamians—the mask is a threat of a strike in the dark, the threat of extra-legal and illegal acts. It is probably true that some of the mob outrages in Alabama have been committed by others than klansmen. But these outrages were committed by men who used the mask and robe; in their thinking these were protection for violators of the law. The only effective method of preventing such occurrences is to deny the right to use in public the mask and robe. The klan should be the first to advocate a law that, on the statements of the klansmen generally, would protect the organization. If it be argued that such acts of lawlessness are by irresponsible klansmen and without sanction of the organization, it is the big chance of the klan to bring to its assistance the law of the state to save the organization."

The letter follows:

"The anti-masking bill adopted as a substitute for the Williams bill appears to mark some advance over the present law. However, in the opinion of the writer, it will be of less benefit at this time than no legislation. This is not said because of any feeling of resentment or because of disappointment or chagrin that the Williams bill failed of passage.

"There are times in the history of a state when we face issues that demand such legislation as leaves no room for doubt whether the issue has been determined without compromise. I believe that Alabama and the men who legislate for us at Montgomery face now such an issue. I am persuaded that the senators who voted for the substitute measure believe that this measure marks a real advance. Doubtless some of these men, or all of them, believe that it is as far as legislation can go without a reaction that will hurt. And since I know a good number of these men, I respect their convictions.

"But I am thinking of the many thousands of other Alabamians who do not view this matter as do our legislators at Montgomery. Inevitably there will be two reactions if the substitute bill stands; this conviction based on my general knowledge of human nature and contact with many people of many kinds. One element of the klan—and in the klan, as in every organization, there is the evil as well as the good—will hail the defeat of the Williams bill as a klan victory. The other reaction will be to intensify the feeling of resentment against the klan on the part of many thousands of Alabamians, I believe the large majority of Alabamians. And both the good and the bad are in this group as well. The fruitage of these two "reactions" can be prophesied with scarcely the possibility of over-stating the hurt to come to Alabama, the strife and the divisions sure to come.

"The writer, like many other ministers and many others who are not ministers, has believed that it was not the part of wisdom to match intolerance against intolerance in a fight against the klan; and certainly not good fighting tactics. As I think those who know me will testify, I have stood always against every movement that would intensify racial and religious prejudices and for every movement that helped to heal the hurt of intolerance of spirit. For this I claim no credit; for me such a position represents one of the fundamentals of the creed of American citizenship and the creed of Christianity. I have never been able to say, with many others, that "the things the klan stands for are good"; but have been able always to say "there are good men in the membership of the klan." These men I believe, should be willing to surrender any privilege or right that is not a denial of constitutional rights to save the peace of Alabama and to meet the wishes of a large majority of Alabamians. To surrender the right to wear masks in public is not a repudiation or denial of the inherent rights of American citizenship.

"It is not an over-statement of the case to say that for those outside the klan—the larger number of Alabamians—the mask is a threat of a strike in the dark, the threat of extra-legal and illegal acts. It is probably true that some of the mob outrages in Alabama have been committed by others. But these outrages were committed by men who used the mask and robe; in their thinking these were protection for violators of the law. The only effective method of preventing such occurrences is to deny to every citizen the right to use in public the mask and robe. The klan should be the first to advocate a law that, on the statements of klansmen generally, would protect the organization. And some of these outrages have been committed by members of the organization. If it be argued that such acts of lawlessness are by irresponsible klansmen and without sanction of the organization, it is the big chance of the klan to bring to its assistance the law of the state to save the organization.

"The substitute bill that comes again before the senate at its session Friday grants under certain restrictions the right to wear the mask in public. Can that provision be so safeguarded that the law abiding public will be assured that there is no danger of abuse of the privilege? Frankly, I do not believe the public mind can be assured, and this because of what until now has happened. We have now laws that ordinarily would be effective in dealing with crimes such as these that have blackened the name of our state. The organization most involved and most concerned because of these outrages could have found it possible, at least in some instances, to bring the guilty to justice—this on the generally accepted belief concerning the efficiency of that organization. But the menace of the mask and robe has reached even into our courts of justice, either because of fear on the part of witnesses or jurors or because men under solemn oath have not been willing to tell what they knew. And this, in my opinion, is the most alarming feature of all this reign of lawlessness. I believe the substitute measure does not remove all danger; certainly not in the public mind.

"The writer does not know whether under the bill already passed it would be lawful for men in robes and mask to come into houses of worship during religious services; I take it this would be permitted in so far as the law is concerned. It is not a matter of general public interest, and I would not ask any legislation for the church that does not apply in all circumstances. But I believe, and have believed from the beginning of the practice, that such visitations have been only to the hurt of religion and the church. There is inevitably a line of cleavage in every congregation when such occurs, some approving and some protesting, and in some instances, ministers have been hurt in their inflence, both those who approved and those who disapproved. To bring even the threat of force and extra-legal acts to the help of the church and religion is to do serious hurt to both. A law forbidding any appearance in public by masked and robed persons would remedy this without any special legislation for the church—and this special legislation I would not advocate.

"Merely as a citizen of Alabama, not primarily as a minister or churchman, I am appealing to our legislators at Montgomery to save the state the unrest and strife sure to come, as I see it, if the substitute bill is finally approved. The denial of the right to use in public the mask and robe, even granting it is a denial of certain rights and privileges that under different conditions would not disturb the peace of mind of the people, is a denial that the minority of our citizenship ought to be willing to yield.

"Alabama is receiving much unfavorable publicity outside its borders, and the world outside Alabama is looking to see what we will do about it. Not primarily for this reason, but because of the menace of mob law and such outrages as of late have disgraced our state, there is demanded even 'drastic' legislation. I believe that the church should speak and that the state should speak, and I dealing both with lawlessness and any contributing cause of lawlessness should speak in no uncertain words. I believe that the mask and robe have no right to ask special consideration of the law of the state.

"John S. Chadwick,
"Birmingham, Ala."

THE RULE OF MASK AND MINORITY UNSHAKEN

The same Senators who refused to tear the mask from the floggers in Alabama now are refusing to restore majority rule in primary elections.—Senator Travis Williams.

Thus spoke the Senator from Franklin after leading a brilliant but futile parliamentary fight to restore the principle of majority rule, even as he had led a brilliant but futile fight to tear the mask from Alabamians in public places.

Practically the same forces voted to save the mask that voted to save minority rule. The Bed Sheet Bloc and the Minority Rule Bloc are practically one and the same. The minority primary system put the Bed Sheet Bloc in control of the Alabama Legislature and a natural sense of gratitude controlled the sympathies of the Bed Sheet Bloc on the issue of restoring majority rule or preserving the minority system.

The Bed Sheet wing of the Democratic party in Alabama elected Governor Bibb Graves under a minority primary law which he assisted in writing and having enacted twelve years ago. Not only is the Governor grateful to the present minority system because it carried him to

the heights politically, but he is gratefu to the Bed Sheet wing of the Democratic party because that is the faction of which he is a member and which took advantage of the minority rule system to elect its man—Colonel Graves being the man. And so it came to pass that when the minority system found itself imperilled, having been attacked in the house by a vote of nearly 2 to 1, Governor Graves threw the whole power of his administration into the breach to save the system under which he had marched from Corsica to Versailles.

We doubt if Governor Graves has been more deeply interested in the progress of any legislative measure than he has in the progress of the movement to abolish minority rule. He accordingly fought the double primary scheme with all the shrewdness at his command—not, to be sure, by the publication of polemics, for he made no public comment on the question, but by solicitations, pleadings and pressure. Because of the number of Senators who are under obligation to him for numerous favors of a substantial nature, Governor Graves was able to fight hopefully in the Senate.

Three other shining marks in the Bed Sheet wing of the Democratic party rendered valiant assistance in the critical battle to save minority rule. They were: Jim Esdale, Tom Heflin and Fred Thompson. While the latter is against Tom and Jim, he was willing to cooperate with them in wrecking the hopes of majority-rule Democrats in Alabama, and thus save the system under which Tom, Bibb, Jim (and of course, Hugo) thrive politically.

Graves, Heflin and Esdale wanted to save the mask, and they succeeded. Had Governor Graves demanded an anti-masking measure with teeth in it, had he for instance, got behind the Williams bill, it might have passed. But he refused to do this. Instead he endorsed the Ware bill under which the mask would have been regulated, but not abolished. He made no special effort even in behalf of the temporizing Ware bill. The present situation in Alabama imposed upon the Governor the duty to address a special message to the legislature demanding the enactment of a measure to abolish the mask under which floggers find protection; but no such message was sent, even if it was considered.

Now, Governor Graves is as much opposed to flogging, of course, as any man in Alabama, and has just been instrumental in bringing at least 10 recent offenders to justice. But he obtusely refuses to recognize that the heart of the flogging problem is concealment. That should be plain to everyone. He faced an opportunity to strike at the heart of his problem, and then passed it up. The Governor was either wanting in perspicacity, or the bond that binds him to the klaverns of Alabama was too strong to be broken as it would have been broken had he demanded an end to concealment of the human face in Alabama.

The difficulties of identifying and convicting masked floggers are obvious to everyone. Unless the authorities can wring a chance confession from some nervous member of a flogging band under investigation, or unless the victim happens to recognize someone among those attacking him, the State will always find it difficult to identify and convict. But if we should make it unlawful to wear masks in public, officers could arrest a man immediately who violates the law.

But the Klan wanted the mask saved.

And the Klan wanted the minority-rule primary law saved.

The Klan saved both.

"Intellectually," said Bovee, "as well as politically, the direction of all true progress is toward greater freedom, and long an endless succession of ideas."

But in Alabama we are not progressing in all directions toward greater freedom. No people is free that is ruled by a minority. And no people is free when individuals are terrorized and intimidated by irresponsible, hidden forces; but the Governor of Alabama believes in a system that virtually nullifies the power and limits the freedom of the majority of the citizens of his State; and he believes that the cheka of the Invisible Empire has a right to the freedom which mask and gown tend to insure.

Moreover, Alabama's two ambassadors in the Congress of the United States, Senator J. Thomas Heflin and Senator Hugo Black, are likewise the ambassadors from the court of the Invisible Empire to the sanctuaries of the republic. They, too, believe in the right of the minority to rule the majority, and they believe in the right of either the minority or majority to wear masks in public places, even as the ruling factions of the Alabama legislature believe in these things.

This is the government under which Alabamians, once proud freemen and lovers of liberty, now live and against which it is useless to contend.

ALABAMA GIVES FLOGGER EIGHT YEARS IN PEN

Anneta, Ala., Aug. 4.—(AP)—Eugene Doss was found guilty of assault and battery and kidnaping by a jury today in connection with the flogging of Jeff Calloway, farm youth, several weeks ago.

Trial was immediately begun of L. A. Clayton, another of the seven men indicted for whipping Calloway.

Doss was sentenced to eight to ten years in the state penitentiary. The verdict came after 17 hours' deliberation by the jury.

Dr. L. S. Ferrell, reputed Larrant City klan head and one of the men under indictment, was fined $50 for contempt of court because of a street corner speech last night in which he said that two Birmingham newspapers were responsible for his indictment, because of investigations they made into the flogging.

4 New Investigations in Alabama Floggings

BIRMINGHAM, Ala., Aug. 15.—Four new investigations into hooded floggings have been started in central Alabama by county and Federal officials as a result of whipping of thirteen persons within the last few days.

Nine of the victims of the masked mobs were residents of Talladega County. P. H. Debardeleben, a white druggist, was ordered to sell his business and leave the county. Clawson Wyatt, M. C. Mathis and W. P. Germany, all white farmers, could give no reason for being whipped. Officials said W. B. Price, white high school principal, had been flogged supposedly because he punished three small girls in his classes. Ben Purvis, W. V. Malone, J. V. Jones also white, and "Snap" Ragland were the other victims.

Fred Inman, a white man of Randolph County, who was flogged last spring "because he refused to permit his wife to visit her relatives."

ALA. KLAN FACES REGULATION

By International News Service.

MONTGOMERY, Ala., July 22.—Prospects of regulation of the Ku Klux Klan in Alabama loomed today when the state Senate reconsidered the vote by which it ratified a measure that legalized masking. The vote to reconsider was 28 to 0.

The vote followed lengthy conferences during the morning. The bill was referred to the judiciary committee, where it will be rewritten in such shape as to regulate the klan in Alabama.

By a vote of 16 to 13, the Senate rejected the Williams anti-masking bill last Tuesday, and by a similar vote ratified a substitute by Senator Ellis, of Shelby, which legalized masking under certain conditions. The substitute had the approval of Governor Bibb Graves, a klansman, and the Attorney General, also a member of that order.

Senator Williams, author of the original anti-masking bill, announced that before the end of the present session the lawmakers will adopt measures to "legislate the klan out of business."

ALABAMA'S WISE STEP.

The legislature of Alabama is to be congratulated and commended for passing the measure making it a felony—not misdemeanor, mind you—to whip and assault any one in that state while wearing a mask.

The assembly might have gone further and made it a felony for any one to wear a mask in public.

The individual who wears a mask to hide identity usually has no good purpose in mind, and—whether wearing such a mask to prevent detection in the commission of some crime or outrage, or as a feature of ritualistic regalia—it is a well-known fact that criminals and cowards hide their faces, and it should be prohibited by law.

At any rate, the Alabama legislature has gone a long way toward breaking up night riding, flogging and the like, by thugs and hoodlums and riotous marauders.

It is to be regretted that the Georgia assembly did not pass such a law. There was a majority in both of the houses for the anti-flogging and the anti-mask bills, but the political orgy that engulfed and embarrassed the entire recent session kept these and many other constructive measures from becoming laws.

In this connection, it is not gratifying but it is at least enlightening, to find that all of the masked and hooded thuggery is not confined to the south.

From Kent, Ohio, in the shadow of the prosperous and cultured city of Akron, comes reports of the flogging of a prominent citizen by eight masked men. Knotted ropes—harking back to the days of inquisition—were used in the barbarous proceeding.

Flogging is no more justifiable in Georgia than in Ohio, but it is well for critics of other states to put stone walls around their glass houses before throwing too many brick-bats down this way.

Ku Klux Klan-1927

California.

Jury Questioned As To Ku Klux Klan Affiliations

One Man Dismissed in Trial of Race Man Who Killed White Red Cap For Breaking Up Home.

Courier 2-19 Pictorial Review Cal

FRESNO, Cal., Feb. 17.—(P. C. N. B.)—David M. Kimes, admitted member of the Klansmen, was dismissed from jury at the examination of talesmen before Defense Attorney Claud Minerd at the recent trial here of Lewis Pearson, Negro, accused of killing Bourbon Palmer. Southern Pacific redcap (white), at the railway station here last Thanksgiving Day. Each of the 22 veniremen were questioned concerning affiliations with the Ku Klux Klan and their prejudice against Negroes. Only Kimes admitted membership.

Palmer was slain by Pearson, who told the police he was responsible for marital difficulties of Pearson and his wife. While the State is demanding the death penalty, the defense is preparing to seek his freedom on the ground that he was mentally unbalanced by family troubles.

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explode, which, had it occurred, would have made it almost impossible to extinguish the flames, while the explosion would have probably injured many of the occupants.

As an evidence that a dangerous element was at work, and possibly for the effect it might have on the Black Americans living in Manhattan, there was burned on Thursday night, over on Highland Avenue, just two blocks away from the Slaughter residence, on the lawn in front of the home of Mrs. Williams, a fiery cross such as is ofttimes used by the Ku Klux Klan. The Manhattan Beach situation is rapidly becoming more serious, as the attempted burning of the Slaughter home would have probably been the third fire of incendiary origin.

The authorities of Manhattan Beach and Los Angeles County have been asked to give this last attempt a thorough investigation.

K. K. K. MEMBER DISMISSED FROM JURY

Fresno, Cal., Feb. 17.—David M. Kimos, admitted member of the Ku Klux Klan, was dimissed from jury duty at the examination of talesman before Defense Attorney Claud Minerd at the recent trial here of Lewis Pearson, (a colored man) accused of killing Bourbon Palmer, Southern Pacific redcap, (white) at the railway station here last Thanksgiving Day. Each of the 22 veniremen were questioned concerning affiliations with the Ku Klux Klan and their prejudice against Negroes. Only Kimos admitted membership.

Pictorial Review 2-26-27

K. K. K. AND INCENDIARIES AT WORK AT MANHATTAN BEACH

According to the latest news from Manhattan Beach, the Ku Klux Klan is playing a big hand in the effort to oust Black citizens from that seaside resort.

Pacific Defender

Information has just been brought to this office that on Wednesday night, October 19th, Mr. and Mrs. Slaughter, residing at 120 26th Street, were awakened in the middle of the night by the odor of burning oil. A quick investigation revealed the fact that a fire was blazing rapidly at the rear of their beautiful stucco apartment house. The occupants were aroused, and by quick and daring work the pile of oil-soaked sacks and excelsior which had been lighted from an oil-soaked fuse was snatched from against the building directly over the gas meter. The mass of oil-soaked, fire-producing rubbish had evidently been placed at this point where it was expected to burn quickly and cause the gas meter to

11-27-27 Los Angeles California

Ku Klux Klan - 1927

Connecticut.

THREE KLAN BILLS BEATEN.

Connecticut House Rejects Proposed Marriage Laws.

Special to The New York Times.

HARTFORD, Conn., Feb. 17.—After unfavorable reports by the Judiciary Committee on the Ku Klux Klan marriage bills were explained by Judge Peck of Bristol, the House of Representatives today unanimously rejected all three bills.

The first one prohibited intermarriage of whites and persons of negro descent declaring all such marriages null and void.

The second prohibited persons who perform a marriage ceremony from inducing the parties to enter into an agreement as to the education or religious training of their children.

The third was "to prevent the derogation of the sanctity of civil marriage."

Judge Peck said these bills had developed a most extraordinary and unusual propaganda and members of the committee had received hundreds of letters in support of the bills, but the letters all appeared to have come from the same source.

Ku Klux Klan-1927

D. C.

U. S. RADIO BOARD HALTS OPENING OF KLAN STATION

No Wave Length Open in "the Near Future."

Washington, D. C., June 27.—[Special.]—Plans for a gala opening of a high powered Ku Klux Klan broadcasting station here were abruptly halted today, when the Fellowship Forum, a Klan organ, which is sponsoring the "Protestant - American Broadcasting tSation" project, was notified by the federal radio commission that no wave length will be available in the near future.

Without securing the sanction of the radio commission for its plans, the Fellowship Forum has carried on an intensive campaign among klan organizations throughout the country to raise funds to construct a station through which its promised "patriotic, Protestant-American" and anti-Catholic propaganda would be broadcast.

Studio's Already Fitted Up.

Studios have already been fitted up in the newspaper's buildings on Pennsylvania avenue. In a recent issue of the Fellowship Forum, announcement was made that $29,204 is still needed to complete and equip the remote control transmission station, located within a mile of Mount Vernon, the home of George Washington.

The corner stone of the transmission station was laid on June 18. At the ceremonies, James S. Vance, editor of the Fellowship Forum, announced that the station would operate on 10,000 watts power and would be one of the ten most powerful stations in the United States.

"Indirectly I have learned that your organization is erecting a radio station," Commissioner O. H. Caldwell stated in a letter to Mr. Vance. "This letter is simply to call your attention to the radio law of 1927, which reyuires that a permit be obtained from the radio commission before construction is commenced.

Unable to Find Wave Lengths.

"For your convenience, application forms are enclosed herewith. At the present time, however, the commission has on file 300 applications for new stations for which it is unable to find wave lengths. I can, therefore, give you very little encouragement looking toward a wave length on which to operate on in the future."

Ku Klux Klan - 1927

England.

ENGLAND GETS OWN K K K, BED SHEETS AND ALL

[Chicago Tribune Press Service.]

LONDON, Aug. 16.—The Ku Kluxers are expected in angry jealousy to burn dozens of fiery crosses when it is learned that they no longer have the exclusive right to the world's bed sheets for occasions of solemn ceremony.

Tribune

It was announced here today that 50 shillings [about $12.50] will buy one good sheet and a membership in Great Britain's newest secret organization, "The White Knights of Great Britain," self-constituted protectors of the nation, against the "deadly" Jewish peril.

8-17-27

The bed sheet is the official costume in which the knights plan to wage war against this "insidious menace to Christianity and civilization."

The only requisites in addition to the 50 shillings are the presence of the purest British blood in the veins of the neophytes, belief in God and a "Christian sense."

Ku Klux Klan - 1927

Florida.

FLORIDA MAN HAS MARKS OF FLOGGING

Blackjacked While in Auto With Woman, Then Beaten in Woods, Victim Alleges

ORLANDO, FLA., July 16.—(AP)—Charles Hicks told a jury in criminal court here today that he was blackjacked while sitting in an automobile on the city streets with a young woman, taken to a woods near the city and beaten with a strap four inches wide.

The jury to try six men charged with flogging Hicks and J. H. Johnson on the nights of June 14 and 15 was completed this morning after 116 veniremen had been called in order to secure a jury of six men.

Hicks testified the men removed him from the automobile after striking him with a blackjack, took him to the woods where he was placed face downward, with one man standing on his hands and another on his feet and severely beat him.

Cuts on his head, alleged to have been received when he was blackjacked and welts on his body were shown to the jury.

His attackers ordered him not to move for ten minutes after they left Hicks said, and he did not report the flogging because of the warnings of the men.

Miss Gladys Barber, employe of the Southern Bell Telephone company who was in the car with Hicks at the time of the alleged attack, substantiated Hicks' story and both said they were certain in their identity of the men.

Mrs. Charles Hicks, estranged wife of the prosecution witness was then called to the stand and said she had asked one of the defendants to aid her in making her husband furnish her support.

TRIAL OF FOUR IN FLOGGING CASE OPENS IN ORLANDO

Orlando, Fla., August 3.—(AP)—Taking of testimony in the trial of George F. Demeritt, A. F. Gilliam, George Murdock and E. F. Stevens, charged with kidnaping J. A. Johnson, was begun in the Orange county criminal court of record here today after 83 veniremen had been called in order to secure a jury of six men.

Johnson, a local typewriter man, who is alleged to have been kidnaped and flogged on the morning of June 15, testified that he had at the time he was flogged $62 in cash, a watch, with an emblem of the Ku Klux Klan on the chain and typewriter parts which he valued at $35. He said he did not get any of the articles back. When questioned by defense counsel, Johnson explained that he had not told of the emblem because he was a member of the klan at Winston-Salem, N. C., and did not want to embarrass that lodge.

VERBATIM STORY OF BRUTAL FLOGGING AND TARRING AND FEATHERING OF WOMAN WHO WOULD NOT SELL HER LAND

Owner of Prosperous Nursery In South Jacksonville, Fla., Is Victim of Mob Led By White Neighbor Who Tried To Buy But Could Not

Taken from her home early in the evening, with her crippled husband, tied with ropes and thrown into an automobile like a bag of potatoes, driven through the principal streets of her city to the San Jose estates on banks of the St. John River, stripped naked, flogged with brutish severity, then tarred and feathered and taken back into town and cast out into one of the main streets—all before 9 o'clock—was the harrowing experience of Mrs. A. Malphus of South Jacksonville, Fla., proprietor and operator of the Wonderpark Flowers Nursery.

And this happened to this industrious, honest, God-fearing colored woman because she owned the land on which her Nursery and home were located, land which was looked upon with envious longing by her next-door neighbor, a white man, C. F. Tresca, who long pretended to be honestly friendly, evidently in the hope that he could buy the desired land at a bargain; and who, when this hope failed, tried to take it what he wanted by attempting to change the boundary lines.

Owned a Floral Nursery.

The Wonderpark Nursery was owned by February Shaw. On March 14, 1914, Mr. Shaw married Mrs. King, a widow. Mr. Shaw owned the land on which was located the Wonderpark Nursery. He and his wife operated this plant successfully until his death, which occurred in 1920. Mrs. Shaw continued alone until 1922, when she married J. C. Malphus, a retired and pensioned fireman of the Atlantic Coast Line. The floral equipment of the Nursery was valued at several thousand dollars.

Tresca took up his residence as a next door neighbor to the Nursery just about the time its owner married Mrs. King, and from the first he had wanted to get possession of at least a part of the Shaw property. But he could not because Mrs. Shaw would not let her husband sell. After Mr. Shaw's death the white man persisted, acting in the most neighborly and friendly way toward the widow, and finally she sold him a part of the land. The original tract comprised 5¼ acres, and Mrs. Shaw sold him 1¼ acres of the land immediately adjoining his own.

Boundary Line Dispute.

After the widow had married Mr. Malphus, there came a question of boundary lines which eventuated into a dispute with another neighbor, a white woman, and this dispute led to the Civil Circuit Court, which sustained Mrs. Malphus in her contention as to where the lines ran. Several official surveys confirmed the matter, and officials of the city and county assured Mrs. Malphus she would not be disturbed in ownership of the property.

But when she and her husband started running a line fence, Tresca set up a claim which covered about an acre or more of land than he had bought, the plot being a corner of fertile soil which would round out his holdings. In a civil trespass suit, Tresca lost.

Then came the mob.

And this is the practically verbatim story of how they brutally tortured Mrs. Malphus.

On Wednesday night, January 20, 1926, Mrs. Malphus attended the meeting of an organization to which she belonged. Before doing that, she had gone to the tax collector's office and paid taxes on her property. She left the meeting early and returned home, where her husband awaited her. Mr. Malphus, retired railroad fireman, was not only aged, but crippled as well, only able to get around by using a crutch.

Mob Takes Them Out.

Hardly had Mrs. Malphus got settled in the house, when there came a hail from the front. She went to the door and answered it, and found that there appeared to be a group of men, whose voices indicated that they were whites.

SIX GO ON TRIAL IN FLORIDA TODAY FOR NIGHT-RIDING

Orlando, Fla., July 27.—(United News.)—Trial of six men accused of flogging J. R. Johnson the night of June 14 will begin here tomorrow.

Williams Matthews, A. F. Gilliams, G. F. Demerritt, W. A. McCollum, E. F. Stevens and George Murdock, the accused men, were acquitted last week of flogging Charles Hicks the same night.

Johnson was flogged after a masked mob entered his home and took him into the woods near Orlando. No reason for the flogging was given.

Whites Spirit Away Dairy Operator Flog Employee

Tampa, Fla., Aug. 2.—Authorities are investigating the mysterious disappearance of Sylvester Fernandez, who operated a diary just outside the city limits, and the severe flogging of his employee by a band of white men Saturday night.

The employee, R. W. Law, an aged man, reported that Fernandez disappeared some time Saturday night. At the same time, he said, a truck belonging to the dairyman also was taken.

A short time after midnight a party of three white men drove up to the ernandez home, carried Law in an automobile to a point in Pasco county, about 40 miles from Tampa, and severely flogged him with a strap. According to the story he told, he and Fernandez had been accused by the floggers of stealing cattle.

ALLEGED FLOGGERS FREED

Six Men Acquitted of Kidnaping and Flogging Florida Man

ORLANDO, Fla., July 19.—(AP)—The six men charged with the kidnaping and assault with intent to murder Charles Hicks, mechanic, who, it is alleged, was taken from Orlando and flogged one night last June 14, were found not guilty by an Orange county court of criminal records jury late today. The jury deliberated 35 minutes.

ANOTHER SCHOOL MAN IS ALLEGED FLOGGER

Superintendent of Schools in Florida County Arrested.

MACCLENNY, Fla., July 29.—(AP)—A warrant was served today on J. L. Hodges, superintendent of public instruction for Baker county, charging him with aggravated assault and highway robbery in connection with the recent alleged flogging of Dr. Eugene S. Denaison of Margarette, according to Sheriff Joe Jones, who said the instructor would be held under bond until circuit court meets here in October.

Other arrests in the case are likely to follow, Sheriff Jones announced

following a conference with State's Attorney H. V. Knight, who arrived this morning to investigate the affair.

Dr. Dennison, it is said, was kidnaped by a gang of masked men from his home in Margaretta on the night of July 8 and after being beaten was left unconscious in the woods near that town. He also claims to have lost a sum of money and accuses the gangsters of taking it.

The warrant for Hodges, Sheriff Jones admitted, was issued several days ago on the complaint of Dr. Dennison, who says that he positively recognized the instructor as the leader of the masked mob, but prior to serving it, the sheriff says that he investigated further into the affair with the result that other arrests will likely follow.

PUBLIC INSTRUCTOR TAKEN IN FLOGGING OF FLORIDA DOCTOR

Victim Kidnaped by Gang of Masked Men, Severely Beaten and Left in Woods; Other Arrests Near

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TAKEN TO WOODS AND BEATEN WITH LEATHER STRAP

Pretty Marie Bishop Kept Whipping Secret Under Penalty of Death, She Tells Detective Agency Chief

VIOLENCE THREATENED HER FATHER AND MOTHER

Victim Says She Recognized Three of Attackers Who Wore Hoods With Letter 'K'

FLORENCE, ALA., Aug. 20.—(AP)—Miss Marie Bishop, pretty 17-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Bishop, tonight told S. E. Stafford, chief of the Muscle Shoals detective agency, that a band of eight masked men kidnapped her from her home on the night of July 6, took her to a woods, and whipped her with a leather strap.

The girl has kept the whipping secret under threats of death, she told Mr. Stafford. Her father and mother also were threatened with violence if they reported the affair.

Mr. Stafford has turned the case over to Lauderdale county authorities and warrants are expected to be issued Monday.

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Attempted to Stop Men Trying to Use Property As Access to Still, is Claim

TAMPA, FLA., Aug. 22.—(AP)—A. S. Henry, 60-year-old farmer living at Tarpon Junction, near here, was flogged at his home yesterday and severely beaten by a gang of alleged moonshiners, who sought to use his property as a means of access to their still in a nearby swamp, according to the story he told officers today.

The beating, he said, took place yesterday afternoon when he attempted to stop two men whom he said were removing fence posts he had placed at the boundary of his property.

Henry said he knew the two men and would take out a warrant for one of them soon. The other, he said, he would sue for damages.

The Alabama Floggings

Federal agencies are co-operating with county and State authorities in their efforts to apprehend and punish floggers in Alabama, who have been active in that State of late, news dispatches assert. The State already has made a very encouraging record in dealing with its floggers and appears to be making a determined effort to do even more. It has succeeded in putting some of them behind the bars for long sentences and heavily fined others. But the activities of the self-constituted vigilantes seems to have been so widespread over the State that the local government is not averse to having federal assistance in the business of curbing them.

This federal co-operation, however, sounds as strange as it does interesting. We would like very much to hear more about it and to be informed precisely how it is taking place. We have heard of brutal and beastly lynchings occurring in Alabama and other Southern states but we have been persuaded to understand that there is no police power vested in the federal government sufficient to do anything about them, nor have we heard of the federal government lifting a finger to apprehend the lynchers. States' rights we are fantastically told make the business of lynching purely a State matter and effectually bar the government of the United States from doing anything to interfere with the mobs. Seemingly, this beautiful theory has been conveniently abandoned for the sake of aiding Alabama in the matter of putting its floggers behind the bars, since anyhow they had no better sense than to flog white women and boys along with white and Negro men.

Certainly, it is pleasing to learn that the forces of law are in dead earnest on the trail of private punishment business, and we do not object to the whole United States army being expedited down to Alabama to break up this ugly situation, but we are nonetheless curious to know how the federal government got in on this matter, if it really is in on it, when it cannot possibly take a hand to bring lynchers to the bar. If lashing a bare back is sufficiently repugnant to law and order to move the Government what about burning a human being at stake?

AGED FLORIDIAN ONCE WEALTHY IN POVERTY

Boston, Mass., Sept. 7—(By The A. N. P.)—A real scene of tragedy and pathos was enacted in Lynn Court last Wednesday when Thos. Murphy, age 83 of Florida, just across the border from Cornelia, Ga., unfolded the story of his life, involving his accumulations of wealth up to a half million dollars and his subsequent fleeing from his home and property to escape the wrath of the Ku Klux Klan. Pillage and murder stalked in the wake of his financial successes. According to his story his house was burned to the ground and his wife and daughter were found dead.

Murphy's weird story brought listeners in court back to the slave-days of the Old South and uncovered the sinister activities of the Ku Klux Klan—controlers of the present order of things in Dixie. The story brought them through the drama of the Civil War and the tragedy of later days.

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They told him at the station they would be obliged to charge him with vagrancy if they kept him at the station. He agreed to this, saying he had walked the streets looking for work, but that his rheumatism had finally overcome his strength. He was given a meal at the station before they placed him in a cell. When officers searched his clothing they discovered he had exactly one cent and a jack-knife.

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"When Abraham Lincoln was President, during the Civil War, he paid a visit to our plantation, and I had the honor of waiting on him. In 1864, when slavery was abolished, my master wished to free me, but I refused and remained with him until he died.

"He left me some land of my own and a little money. I worked the land myself and succeeded in buying more. I became prosperous.

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following a conference with State's Attorney H. V. Knight, who arrived this morning to investigate the affair.

Dr. Dennison, it is said, was kidnaped by a gang of masked men from his home in Margaretta on the night of July 8 and after being beaten was left unconscious in the woods near that town. He also claims to have lost a sum of money and accuses the gangsters of taking it.

The warrant for Hodges, Sheriff Jones admitted, was issued several days ago on the complaint of Dr. Dennison, who says that he positively recognized the instructor as the leader of the masked mob, but prior to serving it, the sheriff says that he investigated further into the affair with the result that other arrests will likely follow.

PUBLIC INSTRUCTOR TAKEN IN FLOGGING OF FLORIDA DOCTOR

Victim Kidnaped by Gang of Masked Men, Severely Beaten and Left in Woods; Other Arrests Near

MACCLENNY, FLA., July 29.—(AP)—A warrant was served today on J. L. Hodges, superintendent of public instruction for Baker county, charging him with aggravated assault and highway robbery in connection with the recent alleged kidnaping of Dr. Eugene S. Dennison of Margaretta, according to Sheriff Joe Jones who said the instructor would be held under bond until circuit court meets here in October.

Other arrests in the case are likely to follow, Sherif Jones announced following a conference with State's Attorney H. V. Knight who arrived this morning to investigate the affair.

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TAKEN TO WOODS AND BEATEN WITH LEATHER STRAP

Pretty Marie Bishop Kept Whipping Secret Under Penalty of Death, She Tells Detective Agency Chief

VIOLENCE THREATENED HER FATHER AND MOTHER

Victim Says She Recognized Three of Attackers Who Wore Hoods With Letter 'K'

FLORENCE, ALA., Aug. 20.—(AP)—Miss Marie Bishop, pretty 17-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Bishop, tonight told S. E. Stafford, chief of the Muscle Shoals detective agency, that a band of eight masked men kidnapped her from her home on the night of July 6, took her to a woods, and whipped her with a leather strap.

The girl has kept the whipping secret under threats of death, she told Mr. Stafford. Her father and mother also were threatened with violence if they reported the affair.

Mr. Stafford has turned the case over to Lauderdale county authorities and warrants are expected to be issued Monday.

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DRIVEN OUT BY KLAN

"Three years ago I made almost a half million dollars. Then tragedy came into my life. One night I returned to my home and found my wife and daughter dead and my home burned to the ground. I had received a warning from the Ku Klux Klan, but had not taken it seriously.

"From that time on I was persecuted, my houses were burned, my crops were destroyed. My life was threatened by letters signed by the Ku Klux Klan.

"A few months ago I came north with $400. I left valuable lands in Florida, because I was afraid to stay there. I feared for my life.

"I have tried to get work here, but it has been hard. Nobody seems to want an old man. Last night I was down to my last penny when I went to the police for help."

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Ku Klux Klan - 1927

General.

AS THE K.K.K. THINKS

(An insigt of the kind of fabric of which the KU KLUX KLAN is made, can be gleaned from the following doggerel rimes which appeared in a Klan paper, and which was sent to the Tribune from Tennessee.)

(Copied verbatim)

THIS IS THE PRAYER OF THE K. K. K.

Oh Lord, we noble K. K. K.'s come now beseeching thee,
To give us power over and grant to us this plea:
Oh, Lord, do keep the Nigger down, let darkness cloud his path.
The Jews and Catholics, set them back, send down on them a wrath.

For generations we had slaves, till Lincoln set them free,
Our domination now they seek and social equality:
Thou knowest Lord that we are first, Thou hast ordained it thus,
Don't let such aggregation rise, for they will prove a cuss.

You made us their superior, you made us lily white,
The Niggers our inferiors, their skin is black as night.
They are striving hard in every way, to set us for a pace,
But make the Niggers, Lord we pray, to know and keep his place.

They are getting too intelligent, of anxious for a race,
In this white man's government, right in the white man's face.
We've tried our best both day and night, to force them to the wall,
To make such laws and amendments to cause the Niggers fall.

We've clipped their wages, cut their rights, they rise in spite of all
But we are in the fight to win, the battle now is on.
We'll wade through blood up to our chin, to keep the Nigger down.
We'll send our noble K.K.K. to Legislative hall.

The Nigger is patriotic, of this there is no doubt,
But from a vote and equal right, we've sworn to keep them out.
He has a record ready one, he's true to uncle Sam,
But ere we will our dogmas quit, democracy be damned.

We like to sit in idleness and see the Nigger work,
Just as the days of slavery, but now he wants to shirk,
We disfranchise and segregate, with brute force crush 'em down
We have our constitution made, The Ku Klucks know no bound.

We're in for wide-world K. K. K. that chafes not our conceit,
But niggers as our countrymen, we've sworn to never treat,
The Holy bible we will change, to suit our whims and deeds,
On "Mark of Cain" and Noah's curse our guilty conscience feed.

But thou oh Lord, are kind to us, Purposes are true,
We want the length and breath of earth, to just a chosen few.
Break down the Catholics and the Jews, cast out the sons of Ham,
And we will spread the joyful news, Hosanna to the lamb,

If thou, oh Lord, will hear my prayer,
And answer it right,
We'll thank thee till the day we die, afighting Niggers then,
To us oh, give a glorious crown, for Jesus sake, Amen.

Yours in 3's, WASH JORDEN, Jr.

U. S. SENATOR TELLS OF KLAN ABUSE

Washington, January 31.—(AP)—Senator Bruce, democrat, Maryland, informed the senate today that he had received dozens of letters, "highly abusive and scurrilous" in character from members of the Ku Klux Klan.

His statement was made as he was objecting to the insertion into the Congressional Record of a sheaf of communications received by Senator Heflin, democrat, Alabama, commending him for his attacks on the Knights of Columbus.

"The senator from Maryland cannot keep these expressions of the American people out of the record," shouted Senator Heflin. "They are protesting against war and indorsing my position. I shall read them and many more to the senate tomorrow and it will require a great deal of time.

"The truth of this conspiracy to bring on war is going to be told to the American people."

Asserting that he would vote to keep out letters of an abusive kind from Knights of Columbus, Senator Bruce said senators should draw the line somewhere in inserting matter into the Congressional Record.

"I have received dozens and dozens of letters, abusive and scurrilous in character, from members of the Ku Klux Klan," the Marylander said.

Tolerance Marches On

That the Ku Klux Klan has lost its hold upon the American Nation and from now on will be powerless and ineffectual as an organization is a fact that is becoming more and more conceded and recognized by even the most pro-klan observers.

Beginning with the klan's failure to rouse the country last September during its grand parade in the nation's capitol, the hooded brethern have suffered a series of set-backs which augur well to contribute to the eventual decay of the sheeted order.

This gradual fall of the oranization is being conceded in every quarter. The Los Angeles Examiner, a Hearst newspaper which, until recently displayed the most favorable attitude a California newspaper has shown toward the klan, comes forth with the following acknowledgement of the organization's diminishing influence:

"Pillow-case patriots of the Hiram Wesley Evans persuasion, intrepid 'Hundred Per Centers,' who fear the sunlight, have received severe set-backs recently.

"Three state legislatures and the United States Supreme Court dealt blows to the dying klan.

"Massachusetts and Connecticut legislators refused to sponsor Ku Klux bills. Religion in these states remains a matter of individual conscience.

"North Carolina solons not only rejected all proposals of the Invisible Knights, but passed laws making membership in secret socities of the klan ilk criminal. The night-shirt and pillow case no longer may be worn to cover the activities of nocturnal marauders.

"The Supreme Court of the United States rejected the plea of the klan kounsel that it be permitted to "do business" in Kansas, whether the Good Kansas will or no. This means any state has a right to ban the klan.

" 'Invisible' soon will be the influence of the 'Invisible Empire.'

"Lovers of country will quote with satisfaction the triumphant march of tolerance through the land."

A CONCESSION

Representatives Ware and Tompkins each has introduced a bill to make flogging a felony. They helped wreck the prospects of anti-masking legislation and it is to be hoped that they will compensate the public by inducing the Bed Sheet Bloc of the legislature to let a bill providing adequate penalties for flogging pass.

Clearly the people of Alabama are dependent on the caprice of this Bed Sheet Bloc for any vital legislation that they may desire. This bloc has taught the public that much. It wrote and passed the bill making the most radical levies on the property of the people laid by any other legislature since that of 1907. It beat the Open Face Bloc at every turn in both houses in regard to masks, and finally it beats and mocks the advocates of majority rule, thus doing all it can to perpetuate

the power of the Bed Sheet Bloc. This oligarchy may as a gesture of generosity to a helpless opposition allow a bill to pass making flogging a felony instead of a misdemeanor. This oligarchy has before this shown a disposition to compensate the public for its excesses and its tyranny. We refer to its action in providing enough money for education greatly to advance that cause in Alabama—the most constructive and progressive step taken by the present legislature. Let us hope that another good turn will be done the public in the matter of increasing the penalty for flogging, although the root of the evil is still the mask.

Outlawry Rius

Yesterday a dispatch was printed from Montgomery, Ala., stating that the Rev. Dr. H. V. Carson, a Presbyterian minister of that city, had been warned to stop denouncing from his pulpit the floggings that has disgraced the state. On the same day, a dispatch was printed from Birmingham, stating that Solicitor Davis, of Jefferson County, had been threatened if he continued investigation of the flogging of a negro—the threats, according to Mr. Davis, having been made by two men, one of them an official of the klan.

Montgomery, where the minister was threatened, is the capital of Alabama, and Birmingham, where the prosecuting officer was threatened, is the principal city of the state. Stop to think what conditions must be when a Christian minister and a public official may be threatened for going in the capital and metropolis of an American state to the defense of the helpless and oppressed, and the performance of primary duties. Yet, these threats are entirely logical. Once a community permits a group of citizens to take the law into their own hands, it follows inevitably that the group must assert supremacy. It is the only protection of the group.

But let that group's supremacy go unchallenged, let it rise above the community, and the unescapable consequence is tyranny in its most hideous form, tyranny from which no citizen outside the group is safe, and tyranny which, in time, will turn upon its own members. Alabama has furnished an object lesson to the nation in the evils of private assumption of the authority that belongs to law. It is to be hoped that it will furnish an object lesson in brave and successful resistance, now that the full meaning of the evils is exposed. —Baltimore Sun.

The Age-Herald presents the foregoing editorial in full because it is such an apt expression of the very point which this paper has been steadily making—that the menace of masked outlawry which is today casting so dark a shadow upon this community and this state could have been disposed at the very outset of its career if the great body of law-loving, law-abiding citizens had crushed the movement in its beginnings instead of allowing it to grow large and portentous, by reason of the lethargy and indifference of those who should never have given it quarter.

The logic of the situation which confronts the people of this state is as inexorable as The Sun says it is. Whenever a democracy permits a group or a minority to dominate it by assuming the functions of judge, jury and executioner, that minority will inevitably come to regard its usurpation as a matter of right. It will consider itself divinely appointed to take charge of the government and to rule men's lives without appeal. It will become the modern counterpart of the absolute monarchs, who were such by decree of heaven.

Alabama for a long while permitted just this tyranny to go unchallenged with the result that we are today harvesting injuries, oppressions and woes which are exciting a belated revolt from among our men of light and leading as well as from among the mass of our people. If this state has furnished to the nation an object lesson in the evils of private assumption of legal authority, it is also beginning to furnish that other object lesson, which The Sun looks forward to, of brave and successful resistance to this usurpation.

The ground-swell of hostility to the machinations of hooded government is unmistakable. It is felt in the universal popular resentment against the enormities recently visited upon the commonwealth. It is seen in the courageous declarations of leaders of the Masonic brotherhood and of the Anti-Saloon League. It is heard in the denunciations of masked tyranny uttered wherever men who love the sunlight and the right are gathered.

Alabama is preparing to free itself from the grip of sinister forces seeking by force and fraud to substitute an invisible government for the priceless government of law and justice bequeathed to us by our fathers. The day of the new independence is near at hand. It cannot come too soon.

A FLABBY COMPROMISE

The Ellis-Ware anti-mask bill, which appears to be in high favor in the State Senate, is not a sound measure and was not written nor voted for in the belief that its teeth would bite deep.

It is a compromise measure, a sop to a public opinion which apparently demands passage of some such long-toothed measure as the Williams bill.

It regulates the use of the mask, but does not outlaw the practice. On the contrary, it specifically legalizes the mask when used by members of any secret order in parades or public meetings, provided these parades are conducted under the authority of officers of any such order.

The Ellis-Ware bill provides a milder and more indefinite penalty for floggings by masked gangs than the Williams bill.

Yet it was frist produced in the house by Mr. Ware who is a representative from Randolph, a county in which some half dozen utterly outrageous floggings have occurred within the last few months.

It was a Randolph county hooded gang that flogged a woman—the mother of four children.

Yet the bill provides for penitentiary sentence in such cases of from one to ten years, while Senator Williams' bill specifically declares such acts to be felonies and fixes the penalty for masked floggers at not less than five years and not more than twenty years.

Senator Ellis (of Shelby) and Representative Ware, as well as Governor Graves, praise the milder measure on the ground that a record of Klan regalia and names of the persons to whom it is issued would be kept for the convenience of the courts. Their theory is that a record of such names would lead to the discovery of covered floggers.

But not if the flogger has one official mask and hood in the hall lockers and another in his trunk at home for use on extraordinary occasions!

Evasion of this provision would be simple.

The Ellis-Ware bill is therefore, a flabby compromise and does not go to the heart of the trouble. Nevertheless, a State Senate which 24 hours before had indicated in private conversation that an overwhelming majority of its members favored the Williams bill, votes 17 to 14 against the Williams bill and for the applesauce substitute.

Whether this sudden and mysterious flop is due to pressure from the Governor of Alabama or from the pro-mask lobbyists that are in Montgomery to fight the Williams bill, we cannot say.

While the Ellis-Ware bill would be better than no bill at all it is, as we have said, a compromise measure and is offered as a sop to public opinion.

The Advertiser is glad that on motion of Senator Teasley the Senate agreed yesterday to reconsider this question next Friday. In the meantime the real friends of anti-mask legislation in Alabama should make themselves heard.

For this is a critical hour in the history of our State. An issue faces our people on which it is not safe to compromise, even as we believe it is not necessary to compromise.

Ku Klux Klan- 1927

General.

Editors Of Alabama's Weekly Press Continue to Discuss Floggings

THE REAL MENACE TO RELIGIOUS LIBERTY

The greatest menace confronting religious liberty in America today, in our opinion, is not Romanism. At least it isn't going by that name.

But if the Ku Klux Klan is allowed to go on a few more years the same course that it has been going the past few years, men, women and children will be victims of floggers for no greater crime than belonging to some church which does not receive the indorsement of the Klan or for not belonging to one of the Klan's so-called churches. The churches which will be indorsed by the Klan will be those which join house to house with it.

Over in Georgia a woman got beat up a few weeks ago by a mob, the leader of which was president of a Sunday school class, moderator of an association, principal of a high school, and a Klansman. One of the two charges against the woman was that she did not attend church. The church leader held her head between his legs while the other members of te mob administered the flogging. Klan lcturers and laymen have been heard time and again by almost every one to boast that so and so had joined the church after receiving warnings from the Klan. It was the voice of the great dragon. After a few more years of evolution or developing, the Klan may be expected to name the church for us to join. It has made a semi-visible start in that direction. The Klan is well described in the 13th chapter of Revelations from verse 11 to 18.—Opp Weekly News.

* * *

SUGGESTS THAT DISCRETION IS THE BETTER PART OF VALOR

The Montgomery Advertiser complains because the weekly press don't lambast the Ku Klux. Maybe The Advertiser editor never wore a school geography in the rear of his trousers, or never backed up against a strap in the hands of a robust teacher. It is told the police of Africa never carry a club or fire arms, but a cat-o'-nine- tails, which the natives fear more than death.—Sylacauga News.

* * *

MUST WE GO BACK TO GUN-PACKING?

Not so many years have elapsed since the day of side arms, carried for the protection of individual rights and persons. As this land of ours became more and more civilized the need for the double barreled derringer and the "Colt's Forty-five" became less and less pronounced, until finally the day dawned when practically no "gun totin'" gentlemen were to be found.

But throughout the evolution of the Southland, the men of the South have not only set a high standard for their womanhood but have held them inviolate, and they have, as our history shows, many times given their lives rather than stand by and witness the insult or humiliation of a woman.

These, Men of the South, have always been, and still are, the pride of the Southland. Men, whose honor is worth more to them with their life's blood. Men who will sacrifice all for their wives, their daughters, their sons. But, where are they now? Do they sleep? Where are they, while these yellow hounds of the night, who wield the lash on the body of women, of young men, who take fiendish delight in the humiliation of their fellow mortals, get in their dastardly work.

From whence comes this mongrel breed, who, under cover of darkness, seek to take the law into their own hands, and to punish those whom they think in need of punishment. No, they are not men of the South. In their veins flows not the blood of the old Southern gentlemen.

Throwbacks, mongrels, carrion, no word seems to sufficiently describe the cowardice, the low form of mentality, that would prompt human beings who would strap to a barrel a woman and unmercifully whip her. Gone is every vestige of civilization, all pride in self and in country. Gone is all the traits of which we feel proud. And yet these man-beasts go unpunished. Are we retrogressing?

First in the roll call of states, Alabama! Are we to go down in history as first to tolerate conditions which bring a blush of shame to the cheeks of every man in whose veins flows the red bood of his fore fathers? Is the spirit of the Old South waning? Have we less pride in our womanhood now than twenty years ago? The answer to this is decidedly no!

The issue has been brought squarely up to those in whose hands rests the law enforcement of the state. The law enforcement department of the state, the executive department and the legislative body of Alabama. The time has come for action. We have laws, many, many laws, state and federal, laws which guarantee the individual his right of existence without molestation, so long as he is law abiding. And, if he or she fails to abide by the letter of the law, these same laws are invoked upon them.

Are the days of '49 to be re-enacted in Alabama? Failure of the constituted authorities to punish such atrocities as those enacted during the past two weeks should certainly serve to bring the citizenship up in arms for the protection of their constitutional rights—and this is permissible under the constitution of the United States of America, conceived and adopted by Jefferson and Madison and approved and adopted by the galaxy of master minds who collaborated in forming the greatest instrument ever conceived by the minds of statesmen.

* * * Must they be shot down like the dogs they are before they are convinced that the people of Alabama will have none of this sort of thing? Again, we ask: "Are the days of '49 to be re-enacted in Alabama?" Or will swift justice be meted out to those who have by their actions cast a stigma upon their fair state?

What would our forefathers say, those old men of the South, were they told that here a young woman, a mother, was taken from her home in the dead hours of the night, by a bunch of yellow hounds of the night and flogged—that here a young man was unmercifully beaten. That in a sister state a 75-year-old woman was flogged by masked brutes. What would they say when you continued and said that nobody had died as a consequence?—Covington County News (Andalusia.)

* * *

FOR THE WILLIAMS BILL

Senator Travis Williams, of the state senate, has drawn and presented a bill to the state legislature making it a felony for any man or woman to wear a mask except at a masked ball or in a spirit of fun. This bill was the result of the numerous floggings which have been laid at the door of the Ku Klux Klan within the past few weeks, and this bill should be supported by every member of both houses of the state legislature. If this bill is passed, it will bring fine results.—Athens Courier.

* * *

AMERICAN

The question of "to unmask or not to unmask" is looming imminent in Klan circles just at this time. It is getting to be doubtful whether this organization, or any other political group, operating in hooded secrecy, is exactly in accord with the principle of a government "of the people, by the people, for the people."

But when it comes to further toleration of such incidents as those which have been brought to light around here recently—there is little uncertainty on the part of most loyal citizens.

Any community, state, or nation can either govern itself or not govern itself, as it sees fit. The question of whether we are to place a sound government above selfish desires, or vic versa, is for us to settle as individuals. The United States has struggled along for a century and a half and has, during that time, managed to rise to the position of a great world power. Outwardly we are strong. Just how strong will be left until disarmament is under discussion again, but the problem for us to solve now is one of inward strength.

The primary purpose of this government is to smooth out the wrinkles of life for its citizens and to give each of them his constitutional rights of "life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness." The perverted idea that happiness comes from interfering with the rights of others was not in the minds of the framers of the constitution, however. In order that such infringement might not occur, the same constitution entitles every citizen to a fair and open trial in a legalized court.

There have been a few cases in history (in times of great emergency) when the people seemer to have been justified in taking the law in their own hands, but as a steady and continual thing this is not a sound policy.

The thing to do is for the people to take the government in their own hands (where it rightfully belongs), but do it in a safe, sane and lawful manner. Instead of saying "leave it up to the politicians," let us all take a genuine and thoughtful interest in the affairs of our city, county, state and national governments and work and vote in an intelligent, conscientious manner. This thing of letting the government ride along as it will until a crime (or suspected crime) occurs and then jumping up with masks on and punishing the criminal (or suspected criminal) is not American. It used to work pretty well in China and Africa, but it doesn't fit in well in a progressive, civilized nation of liberty-loving people.

As long as masked secret operations are legalized, though, there will always be a loophole for those guilty of such action. The solution is for every American, law-obeying organization or group to be open and aboveboard with its actions, and support the government in apprehending and punishing the outlaws who travel by night and who wear masks.—Sheffield Standard.

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THE LASH VS. PRAYER

In Alabama floggings and floggers acknowledge that they gathered and departed from a Baptist church. And in Georgia a leader in the Baptist church and Sunday school has just been convicted for participating and leading in floggings. While in Texas a Baptist pastor was claimed to have been a Klansman and was assisted in his defense by the Klan when being tried for killing a man. In Louisiana, it was a leading Baptist who was tried and acquitted in the floggings and killings at Morogue. We don't bring this out for any reflection on any one church denomination, but to show that according to the facts and belief of public after investigations that in most cases church people were leaders in floggings, yet any church man will tell you that they were once flogged and condemned. So wouldn't it be much better for church people to resort to the methods of the church in those long ago days than to resort to the methods of the oppresosrs of the church.

When Abraham's servant prayed, Rebecca appeared. When Jacob prayed the angel was conquered and Esau's revenge was changed to love. When Joseph prayed, he was delivered from prison in Egypt. When Hannah prayed, the prophet Samuel was born. When Joshua prayed, the sun stood still and the army was victorious. When Elijah prayed, the clouds appeared and the rains descended. When Elisha prayed, the child was restored to life. When Hezekiah prayed, his life was prolonged. When Ezra prayed, the walls of Jerusalem rose from out of the rubbish heap of the valley. When the church prayer, Peter was delivered by an angel. When Paul and Silas prayed, the prison shook, the doors opened and the bonds of every man were loosed.—Florala News.

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HEINOUS CRIMES BEING COMMITTED

The past week this paper carried a news account of the flogging of young Jeff Calloway, near Oneonta. In a few hours this paper was kindly dubbed as having taken up the "sob stuff" of certain daily papers in this state.

Well, if simply carrying the news account of such an occurrence puts us in that class, if that is the feeling of the enemies of law and order towards this paper, we state here and now that they may make the most of it.

Only one or two things, or both, is true when any person or any citizen of this country takes the law into his own hands and undertakes to mete out justice outside of the authority of the law. He is either maliciously ignorant of the principles upon which the American government is founded, or else he is criminally and cowardly wicked.

As this paper has said before, the time has come when constituted authority in this country must assert itself and the law loving and law abiding citizenship of the country must stand solidly behind such authority and see to it that there shall be no usurpation of governmental authority, such as is at work in the present time in this state.

The same principle that is used for a pretext to take some dissolute or otherwise objectionable person out and administer punishment in acocrdance with the whims of a few irresponsible persons was that which assassinated three presidents of the United States. Constituted authority, the authority of the majority of all the citizenship, is the only authority that is either democratic or safe in this country. For that our forefathers gave their lives and surely their sons will not see that for which they died trampled in the dust.—Dadeville Spot Cash.

* * *

A DASTARDLY OUTRAGE

The flogging of Mrs. Slay in East Florence on the night of July 8 was a dastardly outrage. No matter what her character may be, she is far better than the cowardly miscreants who dragged her from her bed to apply the lash to her defenseless body.

Five persons, Allen Butler and wife, Albert, Charles and Lucille Lindsay, have been charged with the crime. Manifestly it is not within the province of a newspaper to express an opinion as to the guilt or innocence of the accused before they are tried upon the charge placed against them.

But it is to the credit of the constituted authorities that they have vigorously undertaken to apprehend and bring before the bar of justice those to whom circumstances point the finger of suspicion.

So far, it appears that there is no evidence that the local Ku Klux Klan, whose garb the floggers are said to have worn, are officially implicated in the disgraceful affair. In fact, it is reported that the Klan has given aid in investigating the matter.

But it cannot be denied that the practice of wearing masks and robes by the Klan in this community, as elsewhere, has made it possible for vicious persons to don similar garb and perpetrate outrages which may be laid at the door of that organization.

Frankly, we do not believe that it is necessary for any good citizen to disguise himself in order to perform his duties as such. There are doubtless many good citizens who are members of the Klan. But they should voluntarily discard the mask and robe, and thus remove the suspicion of lawlessness which must inevitably attach to them when hooded cowards assault defenseless victims. —Florence Herald.

* * *

AS TO ALIBIS

"Arranging alibis," is an expression that is finding its way into the papers since the flogging outrages that have been perpetrated lately in Alabama. The idea is that delay gives the guilty ones time and opportunity to find testimony that they were somewhere else, and that, in legal terms, is an alibi. It is one perfect way to prove innocence, for it is impossible for an individual to be in two places at the same time. So a perfect alibi is a perfect defense to any charge of any offense, white capping, stealing, murder, or anything else.

But is it worth while to establish an alibi by lying, by simple unadulterated perjury? It would seem not, yet it is done every day—was attempted in Georgia, the other day, and failed—the jury did not believe the witnesses.

What is to be gained by any such procedure, by any self-respecting creature? A freedom from punishment by lying before Almighty God. To our mind, that is a fearful thing to do. It may not be the defendant who does the lying; some friend or set of friends may do that part of the business for him, but the man who secures, permits or takes advantage of perjury in his behalf is just as much the prejurer as the man who goes on the stand and does the actual lying.

Sad as it may seem, there will be actual lying in those flogging cases, and willful and knowing lying at that. It takes lying to establish a false alibi, and false alibis are common things in our courts. "I was with him at ——" is a hard thing to disprove. It goes along with "I can't remember" before the grand jury, and is more a block to justice than any other one thing.

Talk about law observance, there is much room for improvement along this line, the disregard of the law against perjury—the combination of legal talent and unprincipled individuals, in the establishing of alibis and other false defenses for crime.

We could possibly have some use for the cowardly fellow who joins in a masked flogging, and who hides out from justice and escapes that way, but the man or set of men who set up false witnesses to swear them out of punishment are too contemptible for any kind of consideration. This thing of "lying like a gentleman" should be out of date, and would be if people would only show proper contempt for it and those who smilingly practice it.—Demopolis Times.

THE BOOMERANG

As the dog which often turns and bites the hand that feeds it, so the Southern white man who has murtured and harbored mob rule and violence, finds himself today the victim of his own heinous devices. When those who were maltreated were Negroes, it was well enough, but when being a Nordic no longer spared the victim, the South has become aroused against the recent midnight floggings, and in the words of Governor Graves declares, "Flogging in Alabama must cease." A Georgia newspaper boldly admits "that 'lash parties' in Southern States have become so prevalent as to become a National Scandal," and "the decency of the whole nation is shocked." It is indeed very strange, that the graveness of a situation never dawns upon the Nordic as long as he and his own are not threatened, but as soon as violence imperils members of his own group it then "only breeds anarchy, and has no place in a civilized country," according to their papers.

As long as the Southern lash descended only upon black shoulders, little or no protestation was voiced by the press—but now "Masked violence is a denial of democracy; a denial of love; a denial of faith; a denial of God," according to the Birmingham "Age Herald." The victims are not only just Negroes.

After this long period of lawlessness through the South, there seems to be a general awakening to the fact that such conduct must stop, "if it takes the militia of every inflicted and infested state to stop it." Never before has it been discovered by the Southern courts that "the rule of might and of the strongest is he very reverse of our civilization and our society" as Judge Sutton recently expressed it.

And so, like the boomerang, that returns from midair to the hand of the weilder, mob violence, lawlessness and brutality have returned to torture their creators and tolerators. What is to be the outcome of this general upheaval of opinions against these Southern atrocities is as yet rather indefinite, but it is up to the South to show the whole world that there are still enough "Southern gentlemen" left to purgo and purify that element that "is criminally and cowardly wicked." The Negro cannot fail to be benefitted by any reform that is made.—(Preston News Service.)

"The Hideous Rule of Mask and Lash"

In an editorial, "The Hideous Rule of Mask and Lash," The Birmingham News recites the story of the recent floggings in Alabama "by hooded and robed night-stalkers"—eight persons beaten in Randolph county alone, and similar outrages in Blount, Etowah and Jefferson counties. It also asks two questions very much to the point—whether or not many persons have not been terrorized into silence by threats by these masked men, and whether or not this campaign of lawlessness is not the work of a state-wide organization rather than of irresponsible individuals. By way of answer it says that these floggings "are committed not only by hooded and robed men but by men who, in almost every case, according to well considered statements of the governor's law-enforcement officers, are members of the Ku Klux Klan."

But The News does not stop at general charges; it goes straight to the mark by holding Governor Graves to account. What does he propose to do to put an end to this epidemic of anarchy? For in plain words The News gives Graves's history. (As a Klansman).

* * *

The power to suppress these outrages and to pursue the criminals lies in the Governor, Klansman as he is. Already, The News says, the wearers of the mask and robe are "secretly circulating the report that they will go unwhipped of justice because they have a friend in the office of Governor and friends in the offices that administer the law. Already, also, the Alabama press is partly apologetic; the Alabama pulpit, if not partly apologetic, is largely silent. . . . In last week's issues of two of Alabama's religious publications—the Alabama Christian Advocate (Methodist) and the Alabama Baptist—not one word was printed in protest."

The challenge of this fearless Alabama newspaper to the Governor of the State is direct and inescapable. He must show his colors.—New York World.

LITTLE by little, the pernicious Ku Klux Klan is dying. Its decay is from within. Repudiated by the best citizens in all of the communities where it formerly thrived, it is fighting for a precarious existence. In any other government except our own it would have been suppressed at its incipience.

It has wrought havoc with our civilization and governments at the hey day of its triumphs. It will soon be a thing of the past. Its fangs have been pulled, but its poisonous venom to a degree has poisoned the body politic, and here and there are scars of its desperate encounters.

Let us hope that it will be exterminated root and branch. The exposures past and present, of its deeds and crimes against humanity cry out to high heaven. That a country such as ours should have far so long tolerated such anarchy is almost unbelievable

AFTER JIM'S JOB

Newspaper writers revive the report that the more judicious members of the Klan, sickened and chagrined at the outrages committed by lawless and uncontrollable elements in the order are resolved to dethrone Jim Esdale, Grand Dragon, and put a different type of man at the head of the order, to see if that will improve matters.

The rebels are said to be bent on demoting Jim for two reasons: First, they think he should have withdrawn the charter of the Tarrant City Klan and banished the members of that klavern who flogged Calloway instead of rushing to their aid and cooperating with the defense instead of the State in the trials at Oneonta. Second, they do not think Jim is quite big enough for his responsibilities. His public statements usually make judicious Klansmen grieve, and injudicious non-Klansmen roar with laughter.

The Grand Dragon's responsibilities are indeed weighty. He is the viceroy for Alabama of the Imperial Wizard of the Invisible Empire, and as such has vast authority over Alabama klaverns. But that isn't all. A grand dragon in a State governed under the conditions that Alabama, for example, is governed, must be an expert on public affairs. He must be a man of sufficient dignity, address and acumen to sit at the counsel board, if need be, with United States Senators, Governors, Congressmen, members of the State legislature, as well as editors and clergymen. Thus the Grand Dragon not only must be at once a ruling prince, a Warwick, a publisher and a bishop, but a philosopher and an orator as well. That is enough to wreck the nerves and break the morale of even so sturdy a figger as Jim is, and so discredit him as a leader that opposition may

any time. If the Im- now order Jim to take command him, say, to perial Wizard should now on new duties and com- ing "The Star-Spangled reference to the book, Jim bowl him over at any time. If the Imperial Wizard should now order Jim to take command him, say, to on new duties and command "The Star-Spangled Banner" without reference to the book, Jim would blow up and there would be a new Dragon soon.

Let us hope that the alert reporters have not been misled, but that the lovers of law and order in the Klan have decided to take command and reorganize.

Ku Klux Klan- 1927 I General.

THE GALLOWS OR THE CHAIN GANG FOR LIFE SHOULD BE THE END OF HOODED CRIMINALS.

THE unspeakable outrages being committed here and there in the South, whippings and beatings of men and women by hooded scoundrels on the ground that these people have committed some immorality, is a reflection upon the intelligence and law-abiding quality of the people in every State where these things are done. Whether these acts are committed by members of the Ku Klux Klan in their hooded garb, or by men who disguise themselves but who do not belong to the Klan, every incident of this kind is an act of disgraceful cowardice. These acts indicate a great depth of moral depravity and turpitude, and are committed by men generally of but little consequence from any standpoint whatever in their communities, but for which the entire South suffers.

It is true that criminality exists in other parts of the country, but nowhere we believe is there to be found to such an extent as exists in parts of the South that kind of base criminality which takes men and women out into the woods and gives them a severe beating, claiming that this is done because the victims have been guilty of immorality. The scoundrels who do this are blackhearted villains, whether they pose as decent citizens or not. They are the very offscourings of creation. The South would be better off if every one of them was in the penitentiary for life or at the end of the gallows' rope, for whether or not these mobs who thus punish people actually murder them they have murder in their hearts and by their acts murder the very sovereignty of their State.

It behooves the public officials in every State in which these crimes are committed to see that the criminals are caught and are duly punished, regardless of any local sentiment in their behalf and regardless of any political influence which they or any organization with which they are connected may have. The sworn officer of the law who does not go to the limit of risking his own life, if necessary, to capture and prosecute and punish these criminals is a perjurer and is unworthy to fill any office in a decent community.

The business men of the South should also recognize the fact that every whipping that occurs by these hooded scoundrels is a drawback to the material prosperity of their section, but the material side, however important that may be, is of trifling importance compared with the moral side. If the rising generation finds that men can commit in safety these crimes of beating men and women, there will be developed increasing lawlessness, which will fructify in the minds of the younger generation in still greater criminality of every kind. No sentimental gush in behalf of these hooded criminals, blackhearted villains as they are, should be permitted to save them from the severest punishment that can be inflicted under the laws and if the present laws do not make punishment sufficiently severe then new laws should be passed, making the penalty so severe that the men convicted of such crimes will spend the rest of their days, however long they may be, in the chain gang building roads or confined in the penitentiary. Such men help to increase moral degradation in others, lower the whole tone of the community and substitute lawlessness for punishment by legal means.

As bearing directly on this point, we repeat a statement which the editor of the MANUFACTURERS RECORD recently wrote for the Atlanta Constitution, in which it was said:

"I trust you will pardon me for writing a word of caution in suggesting that upon the newspapers of the South rests a responsibility almost beyond our power to rightly comprehend. Throughout the South, as throughout the land, there is developing widespread criminality. Against the criminality of his day Lincoln warned the nation, stating that unless it was checked this country, though it would probably not be captured by an invading army, might commit suicide by lawlessness, by disregarding the laws of the land and thus increasing the spread of the criminal power.

"In the South there are many phases of criminality. The lynch law is one. However vile may be the criminal, the mob that lynches him in defiance of the law and sovereignty of the State commits a greater crime than that of the criminal himself. The spread of lawlessness as seen in the action of hooded mobs in taking the law into their own hands and whipping and beating those who, in their opinion, are morally guilty, is a crime against civilization far greater than is the crime of those who are punished, whatever may be the crime that they have committed. Only cowards dare in hooded garb to wreak their vengeance upon those who have incurred their displeasure. If these hooded criminals, regardless of whether they belong to any secret organization or not, had moral backbone and courage they would go into the courts to seek punishment for those whom they think are guilty, and yet when one considers the fact that men of affairs and of good standing in their communities violate other laws because they are not in harmony with their views they are directly responsible for the development of the criminality which finds expression in mob rule, in whippings and beatings, in bank robberies and defalcations and in the murder of any man or woman who interferes with the plans of the criminal, for he has been taught by the example of those in the highest social circles that in violating one law they are giving him an excuse for violating any other law.

"Careful compilations have shown that the criminality of the country costs this nation more than $16,000,000,000 a year, a sum far greater than the total value of the agricultural products of the entire land. Unfortunately, the South shares to a large degree in this criminality. Its people are not fully awake to the tremendous issues involved. They are too indifferent, as are the people of the whole country, to the danger of this situation which menaces the very life of our country.

"Upon the newspapers of the South rests the responsibility of standing for law and order and for the punishment of criminals of high or low degree, rich and poor alike, through the courts of the land. If, as is sometimes claimed, the courts are too lenient or lax, if the political power of criminal lawyers is too great, then no remedy can be found, except through the awakening of public sentiment, in order to secure upright and fearless judges, honest jurors of capability and the creation of a public sentiment which will make it impossible for criminal lawyers by their wiles to prevent the conviction of criminals."

New Republic 12/7/27

JUDGE Ben B. Lindsey's long fight against the Ku Klux Klan has ended in a temporary victory for the Knights of the Nightshirt. As the result of a three-year legal contest, Judge Lindsey has been ousted from his position at the head of the Denver Juvenile Court which, during his twenty-seven years of service, has become the most famous institution of its sort in the world. In 1924, the Judge, as usual, sought reëlection to his position. He was opposed by one Royal R. Graham, who had the backing of the Klan, at that time very powerful in Colorado. The election was close, and was marked, according to Lindsey, by the grossest fraud on behalf of his opponent. Despite this, Lindsey was declared reëlected. Graham is dead, but the effort to unseat Lindsey has been continued by his widow, whose attorney, one E. M. Sabin, is sufficiently identified by his remark that "the Klan has done more for the citizens of Denver and Colorado than Lindsey ever did." The State Supreme Court confirmed Lindsey's charge of corruption in the election, by ruling that there was so much fraud in "Precinct 6, District J," that it should be excluded entirely from the result. The count of the rest of the ballots was held to give Graham the election.

AN attempt to carry the case to the U. S. Supreme Court failed when the latter declined to take jurisdiction; and Lindsey was promptly ousted by a complaisant Board of City Commissioners, and a youthful attorney named Robert W. Steele appointed in his place. Steele announces that the Children's Court will be conducted henceforth on "strictly legal lines." What that statement means may be inferred from the fact that the fifteen chief assistant officers of the court, including probation workers, investigators and others, immediately resigned in a body. They signed a joint statement that their action was a protest against the ending of Judge Lindsey's "incomparable achievements in giving Colorado the leading place it has in child welfare legislation and procedure," and his "tireless and uncompromising fight against the causes of economic and social injustice."

CATHOLICS AND THE KLAN.

One of the propensities of the cunning individuals who revived the odious Ku Klux Klan as a dreams of easy graft and political power is to run with the hare and chase with the hounds. In one section they concentrate their hatred against the Negro, while moderating or disguising their other forms of racial and religious intolerance. In another section they seek to assure the Negro of their friendship, while avowing their opposition to Jews and Catholics. But few in any of those groups proscribed by the Klan have been fooled by these insincere protestations of amity. For these reasons, it is of interest to read a recent excoriation of the Klan, which appeared in the Tablet, a weekly publication maintained by and in the interest of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Brooklyn. It follows:

> The Klan still breaks into daily press frequently and generally under the same heading. Its activities usually border on the criminal. The news from Indiana, where the premier Klansman is now in jail for murdering a girl, tells a sordid tale of corruption. In Georgia the Klan has just been indicted, and a leader sentenced for lashing a defenseless woman. In Alabama the organization has been accused of several conspicuous for their cruelty.
>
> These are the boys who shout themselves hoarse about "100 per cent Americanism," defending "pure white womanhood," upholding law and order, espousing Christianity! Was America, or in fact, any other place ever misrepresented or libeled by such a group of hypocrites and bullies?
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> Wherever the Klan is permitted to carry on there is bound to be the same story. First there is the stirring up of hatred, then the swindling of individuals, then the corruption in political and social life, then the campaign of downright criminality and lastly the disgusting **expose.** The organization is un-American and un-Christian. Its very touch is poison.

It would be well if some of the Protestant churches and their pastors would wake up to the criminal side of this Klan movement, which is utilizing religious intolerance to promote its iniquities.

ANTI-LASH BILL PASSED BY HOUSE AFTER LONG BATTLE

Tompkins Measure To Make Whipping Felony Approved; Anti-Mask and Anti-Home Brew Bills Killed

The house of representatives, by a record vote of 92 to 1 passed the Tompkins' anti-flogging bill and sounded the death knell of the Bonner home brew bill in the two major events of Tuesday's session.

The Bonner bill went by the boards in the morning when the house, by a vote of 44 to 43, refused to make the house committee on the judiciary make a report on the measure.

The Tompkins bill passed easily after a bitter fight between Mr. Tompkins and advocates of the Goodwyn substitute, which would have also made wearing a mask in public illegal.

The vote on Representative Tompkins' motion to table Goodwyn substitute was: For, Adcock, Allen, Anderson, Baldwin, Beebe, Brunson, Bryant, Burleson, Burns, Byars, Cannon, Christian, Cockrell, Denson, Fite, Frey, Golson, Goode, Hampton, Hightower, Hollis, Howard, Hubbard, Hughes, Jeter, Jones, (Cleburne), Jordan (Washington), Lee, Kirkpatrick, McAdory, Merrill, Miller, Molette, Mullen, Nipper, Owens, Pegues, Powell, Rivers, Sanders (Pike), Smith, Starnes, Stewart (Bibb), Stewart (Calhoun), Thompson, Tompkins, Tunstall, Webb and Weldon. Total 50.

Against: Long, Asheraft, Bartlett, Carter, Cook, Darden, Edmundson, Edwards, Goodwyn, Graves, Green, Grove, Guy, Harwood, Hawkins, Howell, Johnson, Jordan (Etowah) Lovelace, Martin, Matthews, Moxley, Norman, Parish, Pitts, Quillin, Rankin, Reeder, Ringer, Rogers (Mobile), St. John, Sanders (Conecuh), Sanderson, Shepard, Shivers, Simpson, Stephens, Vickers, Waddell, Wallace, Ward (Geneva), and Winn. Total 42.

Mr. Goodwyn, who spoke for his substitute, began the debate. He declared that every citizen had the right to the free use of the public highways and the right to look every man he meets there straight in the eye. The idea of masking in public is contrary to the theory of liberty and equal rights as it is carried out in our constitution, he said.

Mr. Thompkins read his own bill to the House, together with that of Mr. Goodwyn and an amendment which he said would be offered by Representative Poole. Mr. Poole's bill, which Mr. Tompkins said would be acceptable, makes a week's notice in a newspaper a prerequisite to the wearing of masks in public.

Effort to Shield Organization

He insisted that excepting the religious and holiday festivals from the provisions forbidding the wearing of masks in public bills was an effort to shield some organization.

An amendment offered by Representative Pegues would have prohibited the public wearing of masks and all regalia of lodges or social clubs. It was tabled by a unanimous vote.

Mr. Tompkins made another defense of himself, charging again that The Advertiser and associated papers had again misinformed the public, and had been unfair in their presentation of the news.

"This amendment of Mr. Goodwyn's was offered in the hope that it would pass the house and fail in the senate, so that they can go out and say that the legislature failed in its duty," he declared. With a final plea that those who wished some legislation to prohibit the perpetration of outrages by masked men, vote for his bill and against the Goodwyn substitute, he closed his argument.

He withdrew his motion to table the Goodwyn amendment to allow Mr. Goodwyn the privilege of making a few remarks.

"I am sure that I and every member of the house was very much interested in Mr. Tompkins' personal defense of himself, which occupied four-fifths of his speech against this substitute. One-tenth of his speech charged that the substitute was unconstitutional—a defense always made by those who do not wish to argue the merits of a bill. The other one-tenth of his speech was devoted to the distinction in the substitute allowing the wearing of masks in public on such occasions as Halloween and Mardi Gras."

Referring to Mr. Tompkins' charge that the bill had been introduced to fail in the senate and be used as the basis of failure charges against the legislature, Representative Goodwyn said: "I wish to say that I reserve the privilege of offering an amendment to any bill in this house at any time I please."

Easy to Convey Inuendo

"It is easy for men possessed of the gift of words to convey the inuendo that unfair methods have been used in relation to legislation. But I wish to say to the gentleman from Houston, no one can charge me with unfairness either upon the floor of the house or in any committee actions.

"The methods used by the opponents to this substitute and bills of similar provisions are those of the cuttle fish," Mr. Goodwyn declared. "Are you men to be swept from your feet by such delusions and personal allusions?" he asked.

At this point he was interrupted in his address by the house recessing for one hour, in respect to the late Braxton Bragg Comer, whose funeral was held in Birmingham at 4 o'clock.

"Since the house recessed an effort has been made to persuade the house that they should not vote for this substitute because it will fail in the senate," he continued. "This subject, because of the great principles underlying it, is greater than that. A line has been drawn and the members of the house, deciding in their own minds and hearts, must get on one side of it or the other," he declared.

"This bill is a message to the world that Alabama stands flat-footed for law and order," he said. "Should the legislature fail to act in the present circumstances the state might well blot out the star that sparkles for it in the American flag but leave the stripe behind as an emblem of her degradation."

Representative Rogers, of Mobile, stated that he was for both bills, but believed the Goodwyn substitute the better measure. He stated that he would vote for it.

Representative Simpson, chairman of the judiciary committee, stated that his records showed 17 members of the committee were present at the meeting at which the bill had been considered. If there were only 12 present at the time it was voted on, no one called attention to the fact, he said. The bill was not taken up out of its turn but was taken up in its regular order with no attempt to surprise anyone, he declared.

Says Measure Fair

Replying, Mr. Tompkins stated that his measure was fair, contained no jokers and would fill an insistent want. He declared that in excepting religious and holiday festivals at which masks might be worn, someone was attempting to try an organization, impliedly the klan, without judge, jury or due process of law.

"Do you want a remedy or an argument? Do you want a remedy or a political issue? You will get an argument and a political issue which will be a primary consideration in the presidential election in 1928 if you pass the Goodwyn substitute. If you pass my bill you will get a remedy."

"Do you want to be driven by a servile press who present only their side of the question and who denounce all God fearing people who do not agree with them as cowards and poltroons. The press would create a political issue from which they would raise great political figures, he declared.

The Goodwyn substitute was tabled, 50 to 42, on a record vote.

The fight over the Bonner bill, which was very brief, came up when Representative Tompkins of Houston made a motion that the house require a report from the judiciary committee. That committee has been in possession of the Bonner bill for several weeks.

Representative Tompkins spoke to his motion saying that the Bonner bill was a measure aimed at the illicit making of home brew and he thought the house ought to have a report on the bill from the committee.

Representative Goodwyn of Montgomery spoke against the Tompkins motion. He made the point that the Bonner bill is not designed to strengthen the prohibition law. He said the judiciary committee had carefully considered the bill and that it was the opinion of the committee that the only purpose the bill could accomplish if it becomes a law was to make liars and perjurers out of those who violate the law anyhow. He said the only people who would suffer by the adoption of the bill were Alabama dealers in malt. He said this business would go to dealers outside of the state. He also pointed out that it is already against the law to make home brew.

The house adopted the conference report on the Fite bill to regulate motor busses in the state. The bill puts their regulation under the public serv-

Continued on Page ...

Ku Klux Klan - 1927 II General.

ice commission and adds $1,000 per year to the salaries of members of that body for duty performed.

The house adopted a resolution deploring the death of B. B. Comer and calling for adjournment during the hour of his funeral Tuesday afternoon. The house passed the bill of Representative Christian providing that Confederate veterans would get increased pensions in the coming October quarter instead of next January.

The house also adopted a report of the conference committee giving the sheriff of Montgomery county $2,000 extra compensation this year for service rendered the juvenile court, and $2,500 annually after the present year. The sheriff draws $4,000 per year at the present time.

The term of office of the coroner of Montgomery county was increased from four to six years by a local act passed in the afternoon.

Among other local bills passed were:

Senate bill 299, by Mr. Stanley, providing for the election of a county superintendent of education for Butler county.

House bill 1081, by Mr. Fire, to repeal "An act to provide a better system of road building and construction for the county of Marion," approved in 1919.

Senate bill 362, by Mr. Holmes, to provide for the formation of districts for building and maintaining roads in Baldwin county.

House bill 1066, by Mr. Powell, to regulate cotton gins in Walker county.

House bill 1073, by Mr. Weldon, to fix the compensation of members of the governing body of Elmore county.

House bill 682, by Mr. Jordan of Etowah, providing for the city manager form of government in certain towns.

The New South

8/24/27

IS the South turning away from violence—from mob punishment with the shotgun and the rope to the law? There are hopeful signs that it is in spite of the contrary influence of the Ku Klux Klan. For the first six months of this year, according to the records of the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute, there was not a single lynching in Virginia, the Carolinas, Georgia, Florida, Alabama, Tennessee, or Kentucky. There were but nine lynchings in the entire South. The records of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People differ slightly, attributing one lynching each to Florida and Tennessee, but the National Association agrees on a total of nine for the first six months of 1927 against its figure of thirty for the entire year 1926. The record is especially encouraging in regard to Georgia, South Carolina, and Tennessee, for the National Association recorded three lynchings each in Georgia and South Carolina in 1926 and two in Tennessee.

It is true that one must set against this decline in lynchings the outbreak in some parts of the South of another kind of violence—floggings. These are almost entirely the work of the Klan and are directed against a different kind of victim from that sought by lynching mobs. In recent years lynching in the South has been largely directed against Negro men for alleged offenses such as murder and rape. The Klan flogging mobs, on the other hand, have drawn no color line and have whipped women and youths as well as grown men. The reason has commonly been some comparatively slight offense, such as violation of the prohibition laws.

But floggings are not going unpunished either. Governor Hardman, of Georgia, let it be known when he took office a couple of months ago that he would not tolerate the Klan's lawless efforts to discipline its neighbors, and the State has proceeded so vigorously against floggers as to halt that pastime. In Alabama the outlook until lately seemed less hopeful, as the political grip of the Klan there is tight. Governor Graves is the grand cyclops of the Klan in Montgomery and Attorney General McCall is the kloncillor of the klavern. When, therefore, action was begun against the mob that whipped Mrs. Bertha A. Slay, knowing ones winked slyly and assumed the proceedings to be a bit of hypocritical window-dressing intended to placate the anti-flogging sentiment, and destined to end without punishment of the floggers. But thanks in no small degree to the vigorous campaign of Victor Hanson's Birmingham *News* and *Age-Herald* and his Montgomery *Advertiser*, a strong sentiment has been aroused in the State against flogging which the Governor and the Attorney General have either come to share or to which they have had to bow. The case against Mrs. Slay's attackers was pressed with vigor and ended in the punishment of three men and two women by fines of from $100 to $25. This, though light punishment, was a vindication of the law, and it was followed by far more drastic action against the floggers of a nineteen-year-old orphan, Jeff Calloway. Two of his attackers have been sentenced to jail terms of eight to ten years while five others have been fined and sent to prison for six months.

From time to time *The Nation* has had to use harsh words in regard to mob violence in the South. It takes extra pleasure, therefore, in pointing to signs of a better public sentiment.

There's Mud on Indiana's

By LOUIS FRANCIS BUDENZ

White Robes

THESE torrid July days of the Mississippi Valley are feverishly heated in more ways than one in my native Indiana. The white robes of Klandom, which stalked through the corn-fields into the Hoosier State House and the city halls, are undergoing a chemical analysis in the political laboratory. Smut and slime, deep-embedded, are found in their fabric. The hooded Governor of the State is under fire. The mayor of the capital city is awaiting trial for perjury and campaign irregularities. Many another good man and true in public esteem is quaking in his job-holding boots. Inch by inch the "Old Man" is lifting the lid of his little black box. Nation

The history of the rise and fall of the "Old Man" is the history of the metamorphosis of Indiana. Less than a generation ago the spirit of tolerance was abroad. The liberal traditions of Robert Owen and his New Harmony experiment were mildly kept alive in the person of his son. Robert Dale Owen played a modest but respected role in public affairs. James Whitcomb Riley, the Hoosier poet, could still sing of his love and reverence for the radical agitator "Gene" Debs of Terre Haute. Father Francis H. Gavisk, pastor of St. John's Catholic Church in Indianapolis and one-time chairman of the National Conference for Social Work, was generally respected and admired. Local intellectual life was likewise alert and progressive. Literary heroes of the hour rose from its cross-roads and hay-ricks to conquer the publishers and readers of metropolitan cities.

Beneath this superficial surface of broad-mindedness and near-culture there lived a population largely crude and ingrown. Literate but ignorant, Anglo-Saxon but decadent, colorless in imagination and vocabulary but much given to the tinseled pomp of fraternal organizations—these worthy brethren of the Tennessee anti-evolutionists were merely awaiting the whispered message of the Klan. 7-27-27

It was upon this post-war wave of Pecksniffery and prejudice that the "Old Man" rode into overlordship. He made the Invisible Realm of Indiana supreme over the State

of Indiana. He became a white-robed Warwick, electing and deposing Republican chairmen, controlling cities and counties, dictating the Republican choice for Governor—with his eyes on the Presidency of the United States as a possible future prize. With irony enough, his first contact with the Klan was due to accident and a Democrat. It was just before the United States entered the war that a blonde, cherubic, immaculately dressed man—D. C. Stephenson by name—set himself up without warning in the city of Evansville. He established a rather elaborate suite of offices there, presumably entering upon the business of securing coal-land leases. Rumor had it—set on foot by himself—that he was wealthy by reason of an oil well or two in Texas. It was not long until he had plunged into politics as a Democrat and in an incredibly short time announced himself as a candidate for Congress. The local organization, disturbed, drafted a leading lawyer of the city for his primary opponent. Whereupon "Steve" magnanimously rushed into print in favor of his rival, and ingratiated himself with the organization by his "generous" action.

About this time, murmurings of the Klan could be heard in southern Indiana. Benjamin Bosse, Democratic mayor of Evansville and State chairman of his party, looked upon it with some favor as a possible means of curbing the growing Negro vote in his district and as a possible stepping-stone to the Governorship. He dispatched the busy Stephenson to Atlanta to look into the prospects of the Invisible Empire. "Steve" went, saw, and conquered—for he returned not as Bosse's agent but as an important unit in the national Klan machine. He moved to Indianapolis, to direct the high-pressure drive for $10 fees, where he blossomed forth as Grand Dragon of the Realm.

Events thereupon followed each other in rapid succession. The individual $10 rolled in by the hundreds of thousands. In his historic letter to the present Governor "Steve" mentions "300,000 grateful and honest Hoosiers" who had written him letters congratulating him on his crusade. The letters were accompanied by cash. Cash and the grateful and honest Hoosiers backing him paved his way to power. Senator James E. Watson, staunch defender of Newberryism and apt pupil of "Joe" Cannon, courted "Steve's" favor and allied himself with the Klan. After a bitter battle the important Marion County committee of the Republican Party capitulated to Stephenson and elected his man, George O. Coffin, as chairman. Money talked there as elsewhere. "Steve" has so far produced one $500 check paid to the committee men, but it is known that there was much more that went the same way. By the campaign of 1924 he had named Clyde Walb as Republican State chairman and Ed Jackson, Secretary of State, as Republican gubernatorial candidate.

Jackson, the present Governor, is a mediocre man with far from mediocre ambitions. Brimming over with good health, his resultant physical composure is sometimes taken for the repose of genius. A politician all his life, his adhesion to the Klan was purely pragmatic. The Stephenson yoke galled his shoulders, and he undoubtedly sighed in relief when "Steve" was found guilty of rape upon Madge Oberholtzer, thus causing her death. The bizarre claim of a frame-up, put forward by Stephenson's high-priced attorneys, failed to impress the jury. The dying statement of the victim and the uncontestable medical testimony on the fatal results of the sadistic lacerations on her body were too eloquent to admit of any other verdict than "Guilty." He was sent to the State prison at Michigan City for life, and it was not until this present month that his voice was to reach effectively outside his prison walls and drag the Governor's name into the mire with his own.

Before these things had come to pass, the Klan-controlled Legislature of 1925 had met and passed into history. "Romanism" was the particular black beast of the Indiana organization. Jews, Negroes, and radicals were thrown into the basket of hatreds and prejudices for good measure.

Shortly after Stephenson's conviction for murder, late in 1925, his friend John L. Duvall was elected mayor of Indianapolis. This was the outcome of the capture of Marion County control by "Steve" and Coffin sometime before. During the campaign the inevitable clothes-pin ticket appeared mysteriously on every front porch on election day morning.

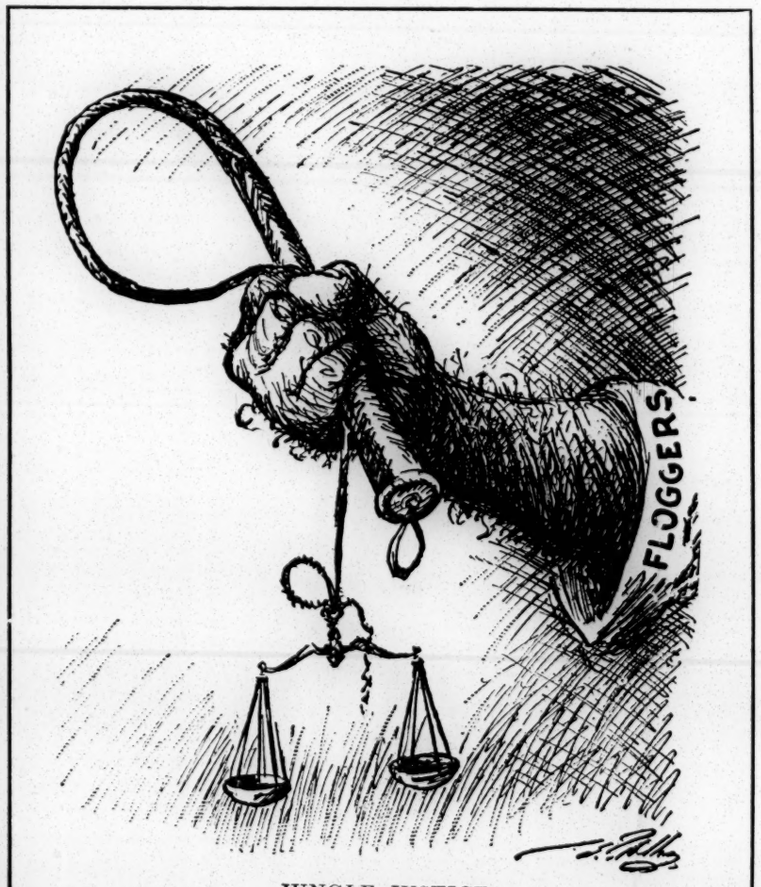
"KASH FROM THE KLANSMEN" has long been the war-cry of Ku Klux Klan officials, and now that the Klan is engaged in exposing itself, particularly in Pennsylvania, we learn from affidavits signed by Kleagles and Kliffs that Imperial Wizard Hiram W. Evans has pocketed a considerable portion of the half billion dollars that has been raised by Klan memberships and other fees during the past few years. The Imperial Klan, which evidently means Evans, has a neat system of mulcting the gullible: first by gaining new members and charging them an initiation fee of ten dollars and subsequent fees in proportion, second by revoking charters of Klan locals and appropriating the funds in their treasuries. From time to time business has been slow, new members have been hard to find, and in circumstances such as these the real business acumen of Evans and his associates has come to the fore. It was a simple matter to instigate a riot, to manufacture a lynching, to stage a kidnaping, in order to make it seem that American womanhood and white race supremacy were in danger. This the Klan did; one of its most successful riots—according to the charges now being investigated—took place at Carnegie, Pennsylvania, in 1923. There one Klansman was killed and many wounded, which resulted in 25,000 new members at ten dollars a head. We cannot work up much sympathy for the 25,000 victims of this swindle; but it is devoutly to be hoped that they will learn not only how not to be swindled out of their money, but how not to be gulled by false patriotism and race hatred.

Ku Klux Klan - 1927

General.

THE SOUTH AROUSED AGAINST THE MIDNIGHT FLOGGER

THAT "LASH PARTIES" in Southern States have become so prevalent as to become "a national scandal" is no scornful jibe from a Yankee editor, but the deliberate statement of a leading Georgia newspaper. The Atlanta *Constitution* declares itself forced to admit that the recent wave of "terrorizing by masked barbarians is sweeping over sections of the South to such an extent that the decency of the whole nation is shocked." In the neighboring State of Alabama, the Montgomery *Advertiser* reports that the "new sport of midnight flogging" has grown tremendously in recent years, and especially in recent months, and that it "has become so wide-spread that it is now practised with more or less regularity in at least two States in this section of the country." The two States which have seen most of the floggings reported are Georgia and Alabama, altho isolated incidents have been heard of recently in practically all of the Southern States. Public sentiment as represented by the press and the pulpit, and State and local authorities, seems to have been aroused both to confession of shame and to a campaign to end the "lash parties" by the enactment of new legislation and the strict enforcement of existing law. The pastor of one of the leading churches in Montgomery, Alabama, calls upon his congregation to say to the night-riders: "You shall not crucify the free-born men of America upon a fiery cross!" "Flogging in Alabama must cease," declares Gov. Bibb Graves. The Birmingham *Age-Herald* describes the State as being "to all practical intents the seat of war—between masked enemies of society and supporters of law, between 'gentlemen of the shade, minions of the moon,' and lovers of the sunlight and the day." The dispatches from Alabama tell of arrests and indictments of supposed floggers and vigorous judicial preachments on the subject to grand juries and also of introduction in the legislature of a number of bills meant to strengthen the arm of the law of prohibiting the wearing of masks. In Georgia, as the result of one notorious flogging case, a school principal and Sunday-school superintendent has been sentenced to a year in the chain gang.



JUNGLE JUSTICE
—Alley in the Memphis *Commercial Appeal.*

Such reaction brings from many a Northern paper words of commendation, the Buffalo *Courier* being but one of those to feel that now "decent citizenship in all the districts concerned has begun to exert itself and to make its influence felt."

Just why there should be a veritable epidemic of floggings in the South no one seems to know, but, as a United Press correspondent recently wrote from Atlanta: "Thirteen new flogging cases in Alabama and two in Florida, added to five already revealed in Georgia, indicate an increase in this method of 'reform.'" The press writer just quoted notes that "of all flogging victims, only four have been negroes." He adds that "most floggers have accused their victims of immoral conduct and have chosen the lash as the simplest way of cleaning out communities; victims are selected from among old and young of both sexes." But the belief that "a sudden and unaccountable outbreak of barbarism" has occurred in the South seems incorrect to Julian Harris, son of Joel Chandler Harris, and editor of the Columbus (Ga.) *Enquirer-Sun*. He writes in a dispatch to the New York *Times:*

"The truth is there has been, if anything, a decrease in the number of floggings, but there has occurred a sudden increase in the number of victims who have been induced to report floggings and to testify in grand-jury rooms and court against their masked or unmasked assailants.

"Strangely enough, while reports would indicate that Georgia has led in the number of floggings, there seems to be little doubt that Alabama is the leader in this peculiarly Klanlike pastime. Tennessee has had fewer floggings than Georgia, Alabama or Florida, and still scarcer are the number of victims willing to make their plight known. In Florida the floggers are not only frequently unmasked, but seize their victims in the daytime in the streets of a city. But the flogging gangs in all four of these States give the same reasons for taking justice from the law and administering it with the lash. These reasons run the gamut of 'immorality,' 'cruelty to or non-support of the family,' 'bootlegging,' or a 'failure to attend church.'"

Speaking of his own commonwealth, Mr. Harris continues:

"The scandal and horror of Klan control of Georgia and masked gang murders and floggings are due to an explosive mixture of political rivalry, political subservience, racial prejudice, and religious intolerance.

"Realizing that the Klan regalia, or an imitation of it, was a handy costume for flogging parties, ignorant or criminally inclined men began to use the lash. The first victims were, of course, negroes. Then whites were added to the list.

"Yet Georgia, after a disgraceful period which might well have been ended long ago, is distinctly on the up-grade. When the victims of floggers begin to admit they have been lasht, it is an evidence that a belief in justice and a trust in the authorities of the law are returning. For when crime is uncovered and brought into the open, the healing process begins, and the body politic is given an opportunity to recover."

The imposition of a severe sentence upon a member of a Georgia flogging band "can not help but serve as a deterrent," declares James A. Hollomon, in his column of comment in the Atlanta *Constitution*. At any rate, the midnight flogging must stop, declares *The Constitution* editorially, "if it takes the militia of every inflicted and infested State to stop it." The Atlanta *Journal* declares that Judge Sutton, in passing sentence in the Toccoa case, voiced the true sentiments of the rank and file of the people of Georgia, when he said: "The rule of might and of the strongest is the very reverse of our civilization and our society." It seems to the Albany (Ga.) *Herald* that the juries in its State are "doing pretty well, on the whole, and they will do better as the crusade to put floggers behind prison bars gathers momentum."

Nothing could exceed the vigor of leading newspapers in Alabama in denouncing the floggings there. The Mobile *Register* calls the epidemic "an attempt to wipe out more than one hundred years of Alabama chivalry, Alabama heroism, Alabama courage, patriotism, decency, and righteousness; it can not and will not be tolerated." And this paper quotes with its emphatic endorsement the recent statement of Judge Walter B. Jones in an address to the Montgomery County grand jury:

"I call upon every Alabamian, regardless of his place or rank, his wealth or his poverty, his race or his creed, to stand up and speak out against the unspeakably cruel outrages which have disgraced our State, and let it be known that the forces of law and order here in Montgomery and elsewhere all over the State, are not to have their government set aside, and their citizens beaten and flogged, but that the law-abiding people of this State will battle to the last ditch in defense of the constitutional rights of citizens of Alabama."

"So long as masked men may go into an Alabama home, drag a woman from her bed, forcibly detain her husband and her sister, and flog her until their lust for cruelty is satisfied, so long will Alabama harbor anarchy and barbarism, and so long will the civilized people of the State feel the shame and humiliation of unspeakable conditions of degradation," declares the Montgomery *Advertiser*. This paper endorses the proposed legislation to outlaw mask-wearing in public places, asserting that "there are now but two classes of people in Alabama—those who condone flogging by masked cowards, and those who condemn such outrages." "Masked violence," exclaims the Birmingham *Age-Herald*, "is a denial of democracy, a denial of love, a denial of

faith—a denial of God!" A series of floggings "by hooded and robed night-stalkers" raises in the mind of the Birmingham *News* the question whether the deeds are really the work of a state-wide organization or of irresponsible individuals. Calling attention to alleged dilatoriness on the part of State officials in investigating these outrages, it raises the question of Klan influence in high places, and asks: "Can it be that Alabama, which once boasted government by law, must now admit that it has only government by lash?"

In the smaller towns and villages of Alabama, newspapers are no less eloquent. *The Covington County News*, of Andalusia, speaks of the floggers as "throwbacks, mongrels, carrion." The midnight lasher, declares the Dadeville *Spot Cash*, "is either maliciously ignorant of the principles upon which the American Government is founded, or he is criminally and cowardly wicked." "Rule by robed and hooded mobs with its accompanying outrages under the cover of darkness only breeds anarchy," says the Guntersville *Advertiser*, "and has no place in a civilized country." But the Monroe *Journal* and the Foley *Onlooker* suggest that the flogging, while deplorable, is only part of the general effect of current disregard and nonenforcement of law, so, "why get so terribly upset about it?"

While no statement from the Ku Klux Klan in Alabama is available, it is interesting to find Gen. Nathan Bedford Forrest, Grand Dragon of the Klan in Georgia, denying that the organization has been involved in the Georgia floggings and asserting that he will expel any member found guilty of flogging. And the acting Grand Dragon of the North Carolina Knights writes to the Charlotte *Observer* to remind its readers that Klansmen are pledged to uphold the Constitution and that "the Klan does not condone the unlawful acts of men who undertake to summarily execute the laws of the land." He also explains that Klansmen may not wear the regalia of the order outside the lodge, except in parades permitted by the civil authorities, and that the organization "disclaims any responsibility in cases where other individuals use similar regalia for unlawful purposes."

In other Southern States the floggings come under severe denunciation, and papers like the Baltimore *Sun*, Columbia *Record*, Knoxville *News-Sentinel*, Greensboro (N. C.) *Daily News*, Richmond *Times-Dispatch*, Charlotte *Observer*, and Nashville *Tennessean* call for vigorous enforcement of law as the best preventive. The Knoxville *Journal* is moved to try to correct the prevalent impression that the motive for such flogging parties is merely a misdirected zeal for righteousness. It is inclined to ascribe it to "that form of sex perversion known as Sadism":

> "It is essentially a lust for cruelty and the victim of this perversion gets a keen delight from the infliction of pain, the more utterly helpless the victim, the keener the delight.
>
> "The men who join in these practises are not merely brutal cowards moved by fanatical impulses. They are sex perverts, and they are frequently moved to express excessive piety as a sort of disguise for their perversion. They hope that in making attacks upon persons accused of immorality, the real underlying motive, which may be more or less vague even to themselves, will be hidden from others.
>
> "All persons accused of participation in flogging parties, and more particularly, all persons convicted of such participation, should be examined by competent alienists. As a rule they are in need of institutional treatment."

The Flogging of White Men

FLOGGING is a new kink in the Southern white man's way of dealing with white men. The other day a mob of masked men dragged a white man and his wife out of bed and gave them a flogging. The outraged victim has sought the court to punish the culprits. If the alleged floggers are convicted it will be a hopeful sign that justice may yet be within the reach of all, it matters not what one's race may be.

THE ENTIRE machinery of government in the South is controlled by the white race—has been since the settlement of America. Its failure to function to correct injustice to a white man will be his own avowed failure. But his disintegrating conception of justice to all, meaning only white men, has stunted his own sense of justice. Now that he is victim of his own limitation his fight to get justice in the courts for a white man is rendered all the more difficult.

THIS COURT battle becomes significant. Justice is on trial in Texas. A victory over lawlessness is every race's victory, a defeat sounds the death knell of the Negro's hope for justice in Southern courts. White law breakers could not keep on violating the rights of the black man without compromising those of the white man. The epidemic of floggings of white men throughout the South proves that this assumption was correct.

THE CRUSADE in the South against mob floggings continues, a court in Georgia having just sentenced Raymond Lee to three to five years in prison for taking part in the beating of H. M. Flanders, editor of the Soperton *News*. Lee has moved for a new trial and is at liberty under a $3,000 bond. Meanwhile the Ku Klux Klan, whose members are believed to be the instigators of most of this lawlessness, is trying to strike back. In Alabama, where as noted in our issue of August 24 (page 173) a few courageous newspapers have been spurring public officials to prosecute floggers, an attempt is on foot to stifle criticism. The judicial committee of the House has reported favorably a bill which gives any city or incorporated town, any county, or the State itself, the power to prosecute any newspaper in which "libelous matter" is published against such locality. The newspaper may be prosecuted in any county in the State in which it circulates and it may be fined up to $25,000 or condemned to pay damages by a jury, the amount of which no other court "shall have any authority to mitigate or reduce." The proposed law is made retroactive for a period of one year. The bill failed to come to a vote in the session of the legislature which has just adjourned, but it is thought that it will be pressed at the next opportunity if the bitterness between the Klan and its opponents continues.

SOMETHING OF THE CHARACTER of the fight and the conditions which form its background is evident from the report of a special grand jury just made in Wedowee, Randolph County:

> The grand jury has diligently, deeply and earnestly investigated the alleged kidnapping and flogging of citizens of this county. The investigation reveals most intolerable conditions. Evidence developed disclosed that seventeen persons have been whipped.
>
> In each case the victims of these criminal activities have been whipped in the late hours of the night by organized mobs of men wearing white robes and white masks over their faces, who travelled in automobiles with tags covered. Most of them were lashed on the naked skin with instruments of torture that in some cases left wounds, scars and bruises that the victims will apparently carry through life.
>
> It is the unanimous conclusion of the grand jury that the kidnapping and lashing of these victims has been done by lawless members of an organization known and called Knights of the Ku Klux Klan, who have bound themselves to secrecy with reference thereto.

The grand jury recommended that the legislature pass laws against the wearing of masks and the concealment of automobile license tags on the public highways.

Ku Klux Klan- 1927

NEW YORK
GRAPHIC

JUL 18 1927

Flogging Wave Sweeps South, 15 More Cases

(Copyright, 1927, by United Press)

ATLANTA, GA., July 18 (By U. P.).—Thirteen new flogging cases in Alabama and two in Florida, added to five already in Georgia, appear to indicate an increase in this method of reform in the South.

Lynching of negroes, once considered the popular amusement of Southern people, has taken a back seat while floggers choose white victims.

Only one conviction has been obtained so far. W. G. Acree, former principal of the Eastonolle, Ga., high school, was sentenced Saturday to twelve months in the chain gang and fined $100 for participating in the flogging of Mrs. Ansley Bowers and her 15-year-old son, Lloyd, at Toccoa a month ago.

Most floggers have accused their victims of immoral conduct and have chosen the lash as the simplest way of cleaning out communities. Victims are selected from among old and young of both sexes. The Ku Klux Klan has received a large share of the blame for the floggings.

OBSERVER
CHARLOTTE, N. C.

JUL 15 1927

Alabama's Race With Georgia.

(From The Montgomery Advertiser.)

Chivalrous gents in Alabama have no intention of letting men of corresponding character in Georgia outdo them. The latter whipped one 51-year-old woman, and then whipped a 37-year-old woman, and when her 15-year-old boy protested they whipped him, too.

Thereafter some Alabama gents flogged a 28-year-old woman while holding her helpless husband and her sister at bay. Our team has not yet whipped any old women, nor a 15-year-old boy. But they whipped one 17-year-old chap—the Bessemer boy who got his on the same night that the Orphan of Oneonta was attacked.

Thus Georgia leads us by two points in a field in which we did not think Alabama could be excelled. And as if to show us up completely, Georgia has started another race with us, and is leading. Georgia has "put out" to see how many lynchers and floggers it can convict. Thus far the Cracker State leads in that department, too.

But, as we say, Alabama is a proud State, and is good at coming from behind. Our team may yet whip an old lady and a few 12-year-old children—in fact, we confidently expect that it will do so. And, we may also convict a few floggers and mobbers, though not, to be sure, precipitately. We hope to get around to that later.

ASHVILLE, N. C

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NEW YORK
TELEGRAPH

JUL 19 1927

FLOGGING WAVE SWEEPS SOUTH AS LAW DOZES

Thirteen Cases Reported in Alabama, Two in Florida and Five in Georgia.

A Good Beginning

THE WHOLE country was rightly shocked over the brutality of the robed and hooded band which flogged Mrs. Ansley Bowers and her 12-year-old son, near Toccoa, Ga. This deed was regarded as peculiarly atrocious because the lad was beaten into insensibility when he protested and fought against the disrobing and whipping of his mother. People wondered if in such a community a jury could befound to indict or convict the guilty.

But for the honor of Georgia and the law, one man has been tried, found guilty and sentenced to a year on the chaingang. He is W. G. Acree, county school superintendent and superintendent of a Sunday school.

This is a good beginning for the law in Georgia, but its work will have to be carried far to assure to men and women of villages and rural districts the ordinary constitutional rights which are supposed to be absolutely guaranteed to American citizens. The flogging mania in Georgia and Alabama has run so far that the law-abiding elements of society must now assert themselves or allow terrorism to replace orderly government.

Georgia

ATLANTA, Ga., July 18.—Thirteen new flogging cases in Alabama and two in Florida, added to five already revealed in Georgia, indicate an increase in this method of "reform" in the South.

Lynching of negroes has taken a back seat, while the hooded and unhooded bands choose white victims from homes and the street and whip them.

Success in controlling the flogging epidemic has not been attained as yet. Most of the cases, particularly those in Alabama, have just come to light, and county solicitors are conducting investigations.

Only one conviction has been obtained so far, W. G. Acree, former principal of the Eastonollee, Ga., high school, has been sentenced to twelve months on the chain gang and fined $100 for participating in the flogging of Mrs. Ansley Bowers and her 15-year-old son Lloyd at Taccoa a month ago.

Three Await Trial.

A mistrial resulted in the trial of Elmer Clark, indicted with Acree. Three other men, indicted with Acree and Clark, remain to be tried.

Five men charged with flogging Bart Singleton, a farmer, near Toccoa three months ago, were acquitted last week. No bills were returned against another group for the alleged flogging of Mrs. Martha Finley and Miss Elsie Williams in Stephens County.

Georgia has no specific anti flogging legislation. Governor L. G. Hardman told the United Press that he did not expect to promote any and had heard of no legislator who intended sponsoring a bill.

The only way Georgia solicitors can prosecute floggers is to have them indicted for assault and battery, assault with intent to murder, or rioting, but in the five Toccoa flogging cases this proved practically futile.

Acree, the only man convicted, was indicted for assault with intent to murder, but the jury found him guilty of assault and battery.

Flogging Only a Misdemeanor.

In Alabama, where flogging is a misdemeanor, floggers have been on a rampage. A bill now before the State Senate would make flogging by hooded bands a felony. The bill was introduced by Senator Travis Williams. It would inflict punishment of not less than five or more than ten years in the penitentiary.

Of all flogging victims, only four have been negroes.

At Roanoke, Randolph County, Ala., two negro women and a negro man were taken to a baseball park by night marauders and beaten. They left town soon afterwards.

Arthur Hitt, the fourth negro, was whipped several weeks ago near Birmingham, by a band allegedly wearing Ku Klux Klan robes.

Five cases where white people were beaten in Randolph County have just come to light. One of the victims, an aged night watchman, was accused of beating his wife. Another was told he had refused to allow his wife to visit her sick mother. Two were charged with adultery. The fifth was not told why he was beaten.

Three Under Bonds.

Rainey Warren, warden of an Alabama county convict camp; Ike Veit and John Patton have been indicted for flogging Hugh McSweeney and Perle Boggs in June. They are held in the Jefferson County jail under $1,000 bonds.

Attorney General Charles McCall is conducting a personal investigation into the flogging of Jeff Calloway, 19-year-old orphan of Oneonta, Ala., who was beaten by masked men, who found him with a half pint of whisky in his pocket.

Eason Murchison, 17, employed at a Birmingham soda fountain, was taken from an automobile in which he was riding with another youth and two girls, stripped to the waist and beaten. The floggers commended the other youth, whose name was not given, and took the girls to their home. The reason for flogging Murchison was not given.

Black Snake in Florida.

Trial now is in progress in Orlando, Fla., of six men charged with blacksnaking Charles Hicks. The Hicks flogging took place on June 14, when he was discovered in an automobile with a young woman employed by a telephone company.

Hicks' estranged wife told the jury that she had asked one of the defendants to aid her in making her husband contribute to her support.

J. H. Johnson also was flogged by a group of men in Orlando.

Most floggers have accused their victims of immoral conduct and have chosen the lash at the simplest way of cleaning out communities. Victims are selected from among old and young of both sexes.

The Ku Klux Klan has had laid at its door a large share of the blame. General Nathan Bedford Forrest, Grand Dragon of the Klan in Georgia, and son of the Confederate General of the same name, denied emphatically that the Klan was involved in any of the Georgia floggings and asserted that he would see that if any members were involved they would be expelled.

SOCIAL EQUALITY IN GEORGIA

Credit must go where credit is due. One should never withhold praise in the face of achievement even from one's enemies. There is, for instance, the much-maligned Knights of the Ku Klux Klan, that earnest, 100 per cent, native American, white, protestant organization that has done so much to further stimulate the already healthy spirit of intolerance in these United States. In a South firmly committed to the policy of segregation of so-called races, this organization has, at least in its midnight excursions, introduced social equality. When these hooded gentlemen sally forth to punish offenders at the chivalrous ratio of a hundred to one, they do not discriminate. They punish whites and blacks alike. Nordics, unsullied by any trace of Negro ancestry, are murdered, beaten or bruised just as readily as Negroes without Nordic ancestry.

In this connection, consider the recent incident at Toccoa, Georgia. Here the upholders of the noble Anglo-Saxon virtues have for some time been unusually active in the pursuit of their ideals. Three women and three men, all Nordics, have been recently flogged without any mercy in a manner that would have filled the gentlemen of the Spanish Inquisition with jealous admiration. One of the women, a Mrs. Ansley Bowers, was four times flayed with bull whips and her young son was similarly handled. Says this unfortunate Caucasian matron:

> "These men are all members of the Ku Klux Klan. There were twelve of the men in three automobiles. They wore Ku Klux uniforms with a little monogram on their breasts and a peaked hood. They whipped me four times and threatened to brand the letter "K" on my back unless I left town."

The two other white ladies, one 55 years of age, were flogged none too gently and run out of the county. Among the white gentlemen who have been arrested for the offense are the principal of a country high school near Toccoa, the foreman of a furniture factory, a railroad conductor and a railroad brakeman. All of them, it would appear, are good, solid, Christian American gentlemen. A glance at the map reveals that Toccoa is in the extreme northeastern corner of the Empire State of the South, near the South Carolina boundary.

Similar incidents from widely separated sections in Georgia, is evidence that the activities of the Ku Klux Klan cover considerable area. The Klan is catholic in its brutality, if not Catholic in its religion. It murders, tars-and-feathers, and whips indiscriminately without regard to sex, age, race, color, creed or proof. It will castrate a Nordic or a Negro with admirable lack of bias. It will hound out of town both belle and belldame with commendable impartiality. It will beat and brand alien and native without the slightest discrimination.

This social equality is an innovation in the United States, particularly in the South, and in Georgia it seems to have developed to a high degree. Great oaks from little acorns grow. The seed has been planted, who knows but that future years may see the white and black citizens of Georgia the recipients equally of its benefits as well as its brutality; riding indiscriminately on its railroads as they now bestride its rails; being served as equally by its hotels as they are now served by its hooligans; granted the equal right of suffrage as they are now given the equal right of suffering. All societies start roughly in the beginning but get refined as they grow older. Georgia, the last stronghold of the Ku Klux Klan, may be no exception. At any rate the Klan has planted the beginnings of social equality where none existed before, even though the social equality introduced is rather anti-social and a little uncouth.

NEW YORK EVENING
TELEGRAM & MAIL

JUL 18 1927

SOUTH TURNS TO FLOGGING AS SHORT CUT TO REFORM, WITH LYNCHING IN DISCARD

Night Raiders, Some Hooded, Take Victims from Homes and Street—Control of Epidemic Not Yet a Certainty.

Copyright, 1927, by United Press.

ATLANTA, Ga., July 18.—Thirteen new flogging cases in Alabama and two in Florida, added to five already revealed in Georgia, appear to indicate an increase in this method of "reform" in the South.

Lynching of negroes, once of frequent occurrence, has taken a back seat while hooded and unhooded bands take white victims from homes and the streets and whip them.

Success in controlling the flogging epidemic cannot be predicted yet. Most of the cases, particularly those in Alabama, have just come to light and county solicitors are investigating.

Two Georgia Groups Escape.

Only one conviction has been obtained so far. W. G. Acree, former high school principal, has been sentenced to twelve months in the chain gang and fined $100 for participating in the flogging of Mrs. Ansley Bowers and her fifteen-year-old son at Toccoa, Ga., a month ago.

A mistrial resulted after forty-five hours' deliberation by the jury when Elmer Clark, indicted with Acree, was tried. Three other men, indicted with Acree and Clark, remain to be tried.

Five men charged with flogging Bart Singleton, a farmer, near Toccoa three months ago, were acquitted last week. A group accused of flogging Mrs. Martha Finley and Miss Elsie Williams in Stephens County Georgia, were not indicted.

Georgia has no specific anti-flogging legislation, and there is no present prospect of any. Georgia solicitors are obliged to seek indictment of floggers on charges of assault and battery, assault with intent to murder, or rioting. In five of the Toccoa cases this proved practically futile. Acree, the only man convicted, was indicted for assault with intent to murder, but the jury found him guilty of assault and battery.

Asks New Law in Alabama.

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Five cases in which white persons were beaten in Randolph County, Alabama, have come to light. One of the victims, an aged night watchman, was accused of beating his wife. Another was told he had refused to allow his wife to visit her sick mother. One was not told why he was beaten, and the other two were charged with immoral conduct.

Disavowed by Klan Head.

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Attorney General McCall is investigating the flogging of Jeff Galloway, 19, an orphan, of Oneonta, Ala., beaten by masked men who found him in possession of a half pint of whiskey.

There are other cases in Alabama and Florida.

The Ku Klux Klan has been charged with a large share of the crimes. General Nathan B. Forrest, grand dragon of the klan in Georgia, denied emphatically that the Klan was involved in any in Georgia, and said he would see that if members were involved they would be expelled.

Ku Klux Klan – 1927

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Meanwhile, only the sheriff has furnished bail, while the others have been returned to the Emanuel county jail at Swainsboro by Sheriff G. F. Flanders, of that county, who made the arrests, but who has declined to make public any of the evidence upon which warrants were secured. All of the men are charged with "assault with intent to murder."

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None of the arrested have commented on the charges. With the exception of Sheriff Thigpen, who was already out under $3,000 bond, the others were brought here this afternoon and after severals hours' effort to make bond without success, were returned to Swainsboro.

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Flanders was flogged on the night of February 25, when several men, all hooded, stopped his automobile near here. He was beaten into insensibility. He said the men told him he was whipped because of editorials he had written assailing lawlessness in the county and country as a whole. His condition has been regarded serious since he was flogged and he is still confined to his home.

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Invited by the Pastor.

The minister said he had attended the revival service the night of Aug. 13, 1925, at the invitation of the pastor, the Rev. Jack Harrison, and the evangelist, the Rev. R. D. Bugg. Mr. Bugg, after a conference outside with Tom Taylor, returned to the church and led a brief opening prayer.

"Looking toward a window on the right, he called my name," Mr. Jones testified. "He said a few more words, called my name again, and then looked to the front of the church, holding his hand to his forehead."

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The overwhelming majority of the citizens of all of these counties are, in desperation, seeking a restoration of law and order. They condemn the mob spirit. They acknowledge the terrorism, and pray for relief.

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Marvin Burke, who surrendered to officers yesterday in connection with the flogging of an editorial flaying lawless-ness in Soperton, Treutlen County and the country in general.

Thigpin also had a word to say about burning of his automobile which occurred several days after Flanders was flogged. It was inspired by Sheriff G. F. Flanders of Emanuel County that the automobile of Thigpin's was the one in which the hooded men were riding when the editor was flogged.

Ku Klux Klan - 1927

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WHIPPING OF EDITOR BASIS OF ASSAULT TO MURDER CHARGE

Additional Indictments Returned For Burning Sheriff's Car; Bonds Are Fixed at $3,000

SOPERTON, March 21—(AP)—Four men, including the sheriff of Treutlen county, held in connection with the whipping of H. M. Flanders weekly newspaper editor here, were indicated on charges of "assult with intent to murder" today by the county grand jury.

W. L. Thigpen, sheriff; Raymond Lee, Joe Lee, and Henry McLendon were named in the indictments. Other true bills were also returned against the men charging them with burning Sheriff Thigpen's car, which investigating officials have intimated was the one used by the masked men who whipped the editor last month.

Judge Graham, presiding, named bonds of $3,000 against each of the men on the "assult with intent to murder" counts and placed their bond at $500 each on the other charge.

Warrants for the men were turned over to Coroner R. A. Dukes for service. He was directed to secure assistance of Sheriff G. B. Flanders of Emanual county and Sheriff McRae of Montgomery county, in making the arrests.

Judge Graham instructed that the men be placed in the Mt. Vernon jail in order to keep them in the confines of the Oconee circuit of the court. The judge said a special term of court would be called to try the cases as soon as counsel for the state and defense could arrange.

The men indicted were arrested several days ago by Sheriff Flanders, Emanual county officer and he made charges similar to those upon which indictments were returned today.

The charges followed the flogging of the editor last month when he was taken from his automobile, near here, by several masked men and severely whipped. He said his assailants told him he was whipped because of an editorial he had written in his paper, the Soperton News, decrying the crime wave which was sweeping "Soperton, Ga., and the nation." Since the flogging, he has been confined to his bed, until yesterday when it was announced he would be able to appear in court to press the case.

Cites Constitutional Guarantee.

Some of the high spots in the charge of Judge Graham to the grand jury were the citing of a part of the constitution of the state defining the rights of a citizen that "furnish us the protection while we sleep, while we work, and while we worship," of the law.

He said he had learned long years ago that "we could not trust the mob and when citizens take the law in their hands, no matter what their motive, they become a mob. Mobs cannot be trusted for they move without rule of law or reason," he added.

"We are a free people, free because none here had to leave a guard to protect his home; none of us had to take our sleep last night with a guard outside and none of you had to come here today under guard. In this land of freedom, we must be on our guard and preserve the constitution and the law of our land.

"Having learned of a recent flogging in your county you are called together, to investigate. Only a few weeks ago you were congratulated from this bench for having a county free reports of such conditions and from information at hand I believe your county, Treutlen, is as free or freer from the citizens taking the law in their own hands as any county in this, the Oconee circuit. It is your duty to make investigations of this flogging, which is an isolated case and if you find such did happen to try to ascertain who the parties were who took part and make such indictments as you find and let the law take its course."

Following the indictments, the grand jury was adjourned subject to recall.

GEORGIA FLOGGERS INDICTED

Move To End Brutal Acts Of Masked Bands Launched. Lawlessness Assailed By Judge.

SOPERTON, Ga., Mar. 23— In a move to overthrow the domination of bands of hooded outlaws, who have terrorized this section by their brutal acts, especially the flogging of women and men of both races, the Special County grand Jury held four men including the Sheriff of Treutlen, to face indictments on charges of assault with intent to murder in connection with the whipping of H. M. Flander, weekly newspaper editor here.

Takes Rigid One

W. L. Thigpen, sheriff; Raymond Lee, Joe Lee and Henry McLendon were indicted. They also are accused of burning Sheriff Thigpen's car which officers have said was the one used by the masked men who whipped the editor last month. Bonds for all four were fixed at $3,500.

Judge Graham instructed that the men be placed in the Mount Vernon jail, to keep them within confines of the Oconee circuit of the court. The judge said a special term of court would be called to try the cases.

Assailed Crime

The men indicted were arrested several days ago by Sheriff Flander, Emanuel county, and he made charges similar to those upon which indictments were returned.

The editor said his assailants told him he was whipped because of an editorial in his paper, the Soperton News, decrying the crime wave which was sweeping "Soperton, Ga., and the nation." Since the flogging, he has been confined to his bed until Sunday.

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Can't Trust Mobs

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GOVERNOR WILLING TO USE ALL POWER TO HALT FLOGGINGS

Walker's Statement Follows Appeal of Christian Council To Take Action To Curb Mob Activities.

Governor Clifford Walker Tuesday announced his willingness to take any action in his power to curb activities of flogging bands in Georgia in answer to an appeal made Monday by the Atlanta Christian council in connection with recent activities of masked mobs in Toombs, Treutlen and Montgomery counties.

"It is my purpose to inform the Christian council of Atlanta that I am ready to take any legal steps within my power to put a stop to the depredations of masked mobs," the governor said.

"I have used all means at my disposal to bring about a cessation of such activities. I have called on circuit court judges, solicitors and the sheriffs to use utmost diligence in bringing guilty persons to justice. I have virtually exhausted funds at my disposal to be offered for rewards and I am willing to take any further steps in my power to wipe out this evil."

The action of the Christian council Monday followed an expose of conditions in the three middle Georgia counties by a staff correspondent in The Constitution of Sunday.

The governor said Georgia had made a splendid record during the last year in bringing about convictions of men engaged in mob activities, and he expressed the hope that citizens of the counties in which masked mobs have been operating will get together and eradicate the evil.

Martial law is not a remedy for such situations in the opinion of the governor, who said that mob activities were not carried on while troops were stationed in a community.

"Such mobs work at night and under cover and the declaration of martial law will not serve to uncover those who have been active in flogging cases," he said.

The governor said a court-martial only would have jurisdiction over offenses against the military and that civil authorities would have authority to handle such cases even if troops were sent to counties where the most flagrant violations of the law have occurred.

GEORGIA SHERIFF HELD IN WHIPPING OF SOPERTON MAN

Treutlen County Officer and 3 Others Charged With Participating in Whipping of Editor.

Soperton, Ga., March 7.—(AP)—Sheriff W. L. Thigpen, of Treutlen county; Joe Lee, Raymond Lee and Henry McLendon were arrested here at 5 o'clock this afternoon charged with being participants in the flogging of Editor H. M. Flanders, of The Soperton News, which occurred the night of February 25, when the editor was dragged from his automobile and whipped into insensibility by a mob of hooded men.

The men are held under $3,000 bond. The arrests were made by the sheriff and deputies of Emanuel county, assisted by the two county policemen of Treutlen county.

The officers who made the arrest refuse to divulge the evidence that led to the arest of the Treutlen county officer and the other three men but stated that it is the result of an investigation that has been carried on in the county since the night the editor was flogged. The men were ordered held under $3,000 bond.

Editor Flanders, who is still confined to his bed as a result of the flogging, had no comment to make when he was informed that the men were arested. According to the editor's wife, Mr. Flanders is in no condition to make a statement. He is still in a highly nervous state and has been suffering intense pain as a result of the whipping.

Mr. Flanders was flogged, it is claimed by three men just after dark, the night of February 25, because of his activities against lawlessness and the bootleggers in Treutlen county. The editor had been in Swainsboro that day and, while returning, noticed a car trailing him as he passed through Norristown in Treutlen county but paid no further attention to it or the occupants, except to notice that it kept about 100 yards behind for a number of miles.

When he was approaching a bridge spanning a creek about six miles from Soperton the car sped past Mr. Flanders and stopped on the bridge preventing him from crossing. The editor called to the men and asked if they would move the car and the men replied, "Like hell, we will."

The editor made no reply and three men with hoods covering their faces came up to Mr. Flanders, who remained in his car, and jerked him bodily to the ground.

"You will write in that paper of yours, will you," one of the masked men is said to have cried, and with a blow with his fist, struck Mr. Flanders, who is a small man weighing hardly 100 pounds. The blow landed at the temple and Flanders fell to the ground, senseless.

Fell Unconscious.

How long he remained unconscious, or with what the man used to beat him, Mr. Flanders was unable to state, for when he recovered consciousness, the floggers had gone and his back from his hips to his neck was a mass of blood. He regained his automobile and made his way to Soperton, where he again fell unconscious before he could tell what had happened. He was carried to his home and has been in a critical state ever since.

As soon as it became known in the city what had happened posses were organized and the county was scoured but no trace of the floggers was found. When the hooded trio approached his car before he was flogged the editor made identifications that resulted in the arrests today it was ascertained. Rewards totaling over $2,500 have been offered for the apprehension and conviction of the men. Governor Walker has offered $1,000; the city of Soperton has offered $500, the county has offered $500 and the citizens of the town have offered $500. When arrested the sheriff and the other three men refused to make any statement.

Carried to Emanuel.

Sheriff G. F. Flanders, of Emanuel county, who made the arrest of Sheriff Thigpen and the other three men was unable to state whether they would be carried to Emanuel county jail tonight when they were unable to make the required bond. The arrest of the men is due to the untiring search that he has made efforts of Sheriff Flanders and to the men who whipped the editor a cousin to the Emanuel county sheriff.

Ku Klux Klan - 1927

Georgia.

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Lyons, Ga., March 25.—(AP)—After deliberating approximately an hour and a half, a superior court jury today acquitted five well-known Toombs county residents of participating in the flogging in August, 1925, of Rev. J. T. Jones, Jr., a Baptist minister.

A verdict of not guilty of charges of assault and battery followed a dramatic plea for conviction by Solicitor General A. S. Bradley, heading the prosecution, who admonished the jury in the closing argument that to acquit the defendants "would be saying to masked bands of the county: 'Go to it, the courts are impotent to stop you.'"

The five men, Mack New, local merchant, L. J. Edenfield, Hugh and Tom Taylor and Willie McDilda farmers, claimed alibis. Their counsel impeached the testimony of Rev. Jones, his wife and other state's witnesses who had identified the defendants as members of a masked band who seized him in the South Thompson Baptist church while he was attending revival services and severely flogged him for alleged "immorality."

Alibis Claimed.

The alibis, supported by some 50 witnesses for the defense, formed the theme of arguments to the jury by defense counsel.

The trial lasted four days. The jury was composed of farmers.

Crowds which had jammed the little courtroom to overflowing throughout the proceedings saw the jury file out shortly before noon after Judge R. N. Hardeman had charged it concerning the law of reasonable doubt, impeachment and alibi. There was no demonstration when the verdict was returned, the court having warned against any expression of feeling in the courtroom.

Closing the arguments of counsel, Solicitor General Bradley referred to "innumerable flogging cases which have occurred in your county."

"Men have been flogged," he said, "women have been beaten, homes have been invaded and even the house of God desecrated by these masked bands which have brought crime and death to your county. Men have paraded the streets of your county in robes and masks but we have never been able to identify them. Now these witnesses for the state come to court and swear who the men were who took this poor devil from that little country church and flogged him. On you 12 men rests the responsibility whether by your verdict this thing shall continue or come to a halt.

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Character Probed.

"The state didn't dare go into Appling county where Jones lived for years to prove anything about his character. We went there because we felt the jury was entitled to know what the folks in his home county thought of him.

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The crowded courtroom was tense with excitement as the jury filed in and when the verdict was read, scores of friends rushed to shake hands with the accused men.

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After the trial, Solicitor General Bradley said he did not think he would press other charges against the five men, which include disturbing divine worship, carrying a pistol without a license, pointing a weapon at another and carrying a pistol to a public gathering.

"There are not five men in Toombs county who welcomed this trial as we did after the indictments were returned," said New, spokesman for the defendants after the jury had rendered its verdict. "That jury's verdict was exactly as we expected it to be and not one of us ever was worried. It was simple and pure persecution from the time the indictment was returned. Why we should be singled out for such an attack I do not know. But we know now and the world knows that we were not guilty.

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Mr. Jones told of his seizure by Mack New, who was armed with a pistol, and Willie McDilda wearing a glittering sword over the regalia of the Ku Klux Klan. At the door two other masked men and Tom Taylor, wearing the Klan insignia, met them and they drove out into the country where a throng joined them. They whipped him while he prayed and quoted the scriptures, he testified.

The same Grand Jury which investigated the flogging of the Baptist minister returned indictments against George Domack, B. F. Brown and six other white men who have not been apprehended on a charge of flogging A. W. Griner, a negro farmer, in May, 1926. His offense, according to the floggers, was cutting a wire fence.

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Three Georgians Remain in Jail for a Beating Editor; Two Make Bond

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FIVE GEORGIANS FACE JURY FOR FLOGGING BAPTIST MINISTER

Court Ready For Trial of Men Charged With Participation in Beating of Preacher; Victim States Assailants Charged Him With 'Immorality' at Time of Crime

LYONS, GA., March 21.—(AP)—Minor cases were disposed of rapidly in Toombs county superior court in clearing the path for calling of the case against five men tomorrow charged with participation in the flogging of the Rev. J. T. Jones, near here last year. Jones was told by his assailants that he was beaten for "immorality" according to those investigating.

Attorneys for the prosecution and defense announced this afternoon that the case would likely go on trial tomorrow morning, with the selection of a jury occupying several hours.

Mack New, L. J. Edenfield, Hugh and Tom Taylor and Willie McDilda were the five indicted on various charges in connection with the whipping of the minister. Their counsel have announced that a plea of not guilty would be entered and said that they had "strong" evidence to present to show that the defendants had no connection with the flogging.

New is a merchant and the other four are members of prominent families in the county.

The minister was taken from the South Baptist church, seven miles from here and carried to a lonely spot on a little traveled road and whipped. He is a resident of Appling county and was visiting the church in Toombs county when two masked men entered and escorted him outside.

Solicitor General A. S. Bradley spent the afternoon before the reconvened special session of the grand jury and G. W. Lankford, county attorney, who will assist him in the prosecution of the alleged floggers, represented the state in cases of lesser charges which were tried during the day.

Judge R. N. Hardeman did not deliver a charge to the grand jury today, as he had previously charged that body when it convened last month.

A special venire from which a jury is to be drawn was called this afternoon. The picturesque old courthouse, situated on a high hill a few blocks from the business section of the town, was crowded throughout the day with veniremen, witnesses, defendants and curious crowds.

Accoustics in the courtroom are poor and seats of vantage within hearing distance of the stand were hard to get.

TOOMBS COUNTY VERDICT

The Toombs County floggers not guilty, and so pronounced by a jury of their peers in open court at Lyons, Toombs County, Ga., a few days ago. So, according with the verdict, Parson Jones has not been flogged and the rumors was much ado about nothing. But the public was not surprised at the verdict. The verdict was about what was expected. In the same county a few months ago a lawyer who assisted in the prosecution of men who were alleged to be members of a masked mob was kidnapped, taken outside of Lyons Ga., and whipped unmercifully. The crime the attorney had committed was that he had assisted the state in prosecuting four men who had been indicted for murder. The bill charged that these men dressed in mask and robe had broken into the house of a citizen and shot him dead in the presence of his wife and children, without cause. The men were promptly acquitted, as was those who were indicted for flogging Rev. Jones. The attorney was taken out and horse whipped into insensibility. Judge Hardeman convened the grand jury of Toombs County and charged them of their duty in the premises. The jury failed to indict anybody for horse whipping the attorney, but returned a bill against the attorney for carrying a pistol; and in the light of this situation the public reasonably expected a verdict of not guilty in the Jones flogging case.

These escapades give Toombs County a bad name in the public mind and advertises the county as an unsafe place to live in. The good people of the county, and there are many, owe it to law and order and to themselves to apprehend and bring to justice the lawless element among them that is terrorizing the county and making it an unsafe place to live in.

The Atlanta Constitution a few Sundays ago told the world of the outrages and lawlessness prevailing in the county, and that the law seems unable to cope with those that had taken the law in their own hands, and have established themselves as a law unto themselves. It was little less than an outrage to indict the victim of the mob in the Brown case and let the mob go free, and it is a little less than an outrage for those who beat up Rev. Jones to go unpunished. It seems that Toombs and Treutlen Counties are proper places for martial law, the civil law having failed to protect the citizens for the enjoyment of life, happiness and property.

Seven Indictments Returned By Probe In Georgia Flogging

LYONS, GA., Feb. 24.—(AP)—Seven indictments were returned here late today by a special superior court grand jury which investigated the flogging of Wimberly E. Brown, an attorney, on Christmas eve, and numerous other outrages perpetrated by masked bands in Toombs county during the last year.

Six persons were said to have been named in the true bills, but their names were withheld until they can be arrested on bench warrants. Arrests are expected shortly, county authorities said, and the cases will be tried immediately.

Whether the flogging of Brown, which brought about the grand jury investigation after Governor Walker had offered a reward for the apprehension of his assailants formed the basis of any of the indictments could not be learned.

WHITE GEORGIA GIRL GUILTY OF FLOGGING

THOMASTON, Ga., Feb. 28.—Ruth Foster, 18, white, member of a prominent family in the agricultural community of this county, is under suspended sentence of twelve months in the State Penitentiary as the result of her conviction of participating in the flogging of Frank Gill and his wife. With her brother and four other men, Miss Foster stood trial Wednesday and was convicted. The other convicted were: Claude Foster, Connie Watson, Jim Harvey and Olin Maulding.

A WHITE WOMAN AND FOUR MEN CONVICTED OF FLOGGING NEGROES

Thomaston, Ga., March 1.—Ruth Foster, Claude Foster, Connie Watson, Jim Harvey and Olin Matthews, all white, were convicted on a charge of flogging Frank Gill and his wife, Negroes, and sentenced to serve twelve months in the state penitentiary. The woman's sentence, however, was suspended.

Mr. and Mrs. Gill testified that the five men and women came to their home about two weeks ago and charged them with stealing some liquor. They denied the charge, but in spite of their declared innocence they were taken from the house and whipped severely. The white men admitted the crime and the woman confessed that she accompanied them but remained in the car during the whipping.

HUNDRED FLOGGINGS IN GEORGIA COUNTY

NEW YORK TIMES
MAR 14 1927

Investigators Strike Trail of Outrages by Masked Night Riders of Toombs.

SOME IN NEXT COUNTY, TOO

Whipping of Editor for His Editorials and of Lawyer Uncover Nest of Offenses.

Special to The New York Times.

ATLANTA, Ga., March 13.—More than 100 floggings are believed to have occurred in Toombs County, Georgia, within a year, according to newspaper investigators who have been inquiring into the recent attacks by masked men on the editor of a newspaper in Treutlen County and on a leading lawyer of Lyons in Toombs. These counties adjoin.

More than twenty cases of mob violence are matters of common knowledge. Numerous negroes have been taken out and flogged, it is admitted, but no negro has ever made a report. Many white men who have been victims of the lash also have kept silent through fear or shame.

The two most recent and prominent cases in which mobs figured offer a strange contrast. In Treutlen County H. M. Flanders, editor of The Soperton News, was ambushed by the "liquor gang" and beaten so badly that he may not recover. This gang controls the politics of the community. Flanders had fought the illegal traffic in liquor in vigorous editorials. He had intimated that officials were not as vigilant as they should be and had asked what the Grand Jury intended to do about the matter.

Jurists Also Threatened.

In Toombs County Wimberly Brown, an attorney, was kidnapped from the centre of Lyons, taken to the country and at a lonely spot severely beaten and told that Judge R. N. Hardeman and the Solicitor General were to suffer the same fate if they continued their war on night riders.

Brown's offense was a double one. For one thing, he had defended liquor traffickers and had helped to prosecute four men accused of killing a man they had only intended to whip; secondly, the "moral forces" of the county assert that Brown indulges in intoxicants, and they say they intend to make a teetotaller of him.

When he appealed to the courts the Grand Jury called to consider the case failed to return a single indictment in the whipping, so far as ever has been announced, but did indict the lawyer on a charge of carrying a pistol and possessing intoxicants. Brown's possession of the pistol may be explained by the fact that he had been warned twice by the night riders and then whipped.

Citizens Afraid to Act.

The main difficulty in enforcing the law in Toombs County lies in the fact that the citizens as a whole are afraid to act and no one has the initiative to lead in the prosecution. The night-riders seem to have little fear of the Grand Juries and none of State interference. With friends, relatives and sometimes, it is believed, members of the band of riders members of the jury, indictments are extremely unlikely. Threats of barn burnings and of trade boycotts have been sufficient to deter citizens from interfering so long as they are left alone.

The floggings in Toombs County have been officially laid at the doors of the Ku Klux Klan by Judge R. N. Hardeman and other officials who have investigated the situation in that region. The Klan, on the the other hand, has denied this charge, asserting that the Lyons lodge has been discontinued.

It is not hard to get the names of many of those who have been whipped. Ollie Ganey was among the men whipped last Spring. He was beaten because he was said to have deserted his wife and had succeeded in having trial of charges brought against him in courts postponed. Clary Warren was whipped because the masked band did not think he had paid his fine for bootlegging quickly enough. Warren is now serving as a Deputy Sheriff of Toombs County. Mrs. Beulah Lewis, to whose conduct the masked band objected, was whipped, and it was on the night she was whipped that the lawyer, Brown, was taken out by the band and warned. Walter Simon was accused of being "drunk and lazy" and was whipped.

Willie Wilson was the man who was killed after offering "resistance" to the band. Cliff Collins, his daughter and his son were flogged for their alleged conduct. A young man named Durden was whipped, but the reason never trickled out. A Mrs. Harrison was struck over the head with a pistol when she resisted and because of her condition at the time suffered severe consequences.

Ku Klux Klan - 1927

Georgia.

DRASTIC ENDS NECESSARY.

Again a night-riding gang of "hooded floggers" are reported as terrorizing the community on the Toombs-Montgomery border line.

This section has disgraced the entire state by its continued defiance of constituted authority, and by the apparent inability of the courts to convict and punish the culprits.

Advices from Mt. Vernon, the county seat of Montgomery, state that F. B. Gordon, a prominent citizen of that county, was taken from his automobile by a masked mob and "severely whipped" for "showing too much interest in a court case being tried in the Montgomery courts." Which means, if true, that the band of hoodlums are organized for the specific purpose of intimidating court proceedings, and for the deliberate obstruction of justice as well as for the defiance of law and order.

There have been several cases of flogging in the vicinity of this most recent outrage.

Only a few weeks ago a prominent attorney of Lyons, in Toombs county, was inhumanly flogged because he had assisted in the prosecution of others who had been tried and acquitted of alleged mob violence. The members of the mob have not been apprehended—or convicted—despite the accumulation of large rewards—one of which was offered by the governor—and the fearless activities of Judge Hardeman and Solicitor Bradley to bring the cowardly face hiders to the bar.

This situation, calling forth the condemnation of an outraged public upon one of the most favored sections of Georgia, with good farms and schools and churches and some of as good people as there are to be found in this or any state, must be stopped.

If it becomes necessary to declare the two counties under martial law, and to dispatch the state militia there to restore the community to constitutional government, then it must take that course.

No community can afford to capitulate to the mob—no court of justice can afford to be enveloped in an atmosphere of defiance, or of intimidation.

One county in Illinois has brought everlasting shame upon the entire state. Mob rule at Herrin has not only brought disgrace upon one of the great commonwealths of America, but has so terrorized the section in which it has flourished that hundreds of good people have sacrificed their properties, and sought homes in other sections. The economic damage that has ensued to Williamson county is almost inestimable, and its recovery will be slow.

We cannot afford to submit to an admixture of constitutional government, and also of self-regulating defiers of law, and thereby of government. Either one or the other must be adamant. Either one or the other—the protection of society by law properly respected, or the chaos of anarchy, where there is no law other than the self-imposed law of thugs—must prevail in its fullness.

The situation in Toombs and Montgomery has passed the peak of patience. It is imperative that more drastic measures be adopted to cope with a disgrace that shakes the state from the hills to the sea.

GEORGIA GOVERNOR OFFERS REWARD FOR MOB WHO WHIPPED RACE MAN

Atlanta, Ga., Jan. 4.—(By A. N. P.)—The flogging of Wimberley E. Brown, a Lyons lawyer, by masked Ku Klux Klansmen at Louisville, Ga., a few days ago, has aroused Gov. Clifford Walker to a statement against the rule of the mob in this state and to the offer of a special reward of $1,000 for the first conviction of a member of the band that whipped Brown.

Governor Walker's statement follows: "The minutes of the executive offices show a blanket order entered on the first day of my taking office offering a reward of $1,000 for the arrest, with evidence to convict of the first member of an organized mob and $100 each for each subsequent conviction. The records of the time following show the smallest number of such outbreaks of violence ever known in the history of the state.

"It is unspeakably regrettable that the highly creditable record of the state should be marred by the disgraceful conditions in Toombs County.

"I am offering a special reward of $1,000 for the first conviction for the attack on Mr. Brown. I am directing the sheriff to make a thorough investigation and exhaust every effort to apprehend the guilty parties. I am calling on every patriotic citizen of the county to cooperate. I am in conference with the judge and solicitor general and am working in harmony with them.

"If the regular processes of the courts fail to curb these outrages I will declare martial law. Mobs with heads covered with flour sacks shall not would. To cast it off now would be to separate us to a certain extent from our history and deprive us of much of the inspiration we now have to struggle on and upward. It is to our credit, and not to our shame, that we have risen so rapidly, more rapidly than most other people, from savage ancestors through slavery to civilization. Yet for my part I believe the memory of these facts should be preserved in our name and traditions, as it is preserved in the color of our faces. I do not think my people should be ashamed of their history, nor of any name that people choose in good faith to give them."

ATTORNEY UNABLE TO NAME FLOGGERS

Lyons, Ga., February 22.—(AP)—The special term of the Toombs county grand jury, which was convened here yesterday by Judge R. N. Hardeman of the Middle circuit to probe the flogging that was administered Wimberly Brown, lawyer of Lyons, last Christmas eve, will be continued during the next two days.

Wimberly Brown, the attorney who was flogged by the hooded raiders, testified before the jurors this morning but was unable to make an identification of the men who assaulted him, it was ascertained. Witnesses have been called from Claxton, Baxley, Swainsboro and other towns and will appear before the jury some time tomorrow, according to Solicitor A. S. Bradley. He refused to divulge the character of the testimony these witnesses are expected to present, but he did state, "that we are gathering them from all over."

PROBE OF FLOGGING ON TODAY AT LYONS

Lyons, Ga., January 16.—(AP)—Called in special term, Toombs county superior court will tomorrow begin the empaneling of a grand jury to probe into the flogging on Christmas eve of Wimberly E. Brown, attorney, by a band of hooded men.

The special session of court was called by Judge H. E. Hardeman after he and Solicitor A. S. Bradley had conducted a preliminary investigation and reported to Governor Walker, who offered a reward for the arrest and conviction of the first member of the mob. No arrests have been made.

In a formal report to the governor Solicitor Bradley declared that a series of acts of violence in Toombs county, climaxed by the flogging of the attorney, had rendered ordinary processes of law "inadequate to meet the situation, in which a terrorized populace has been overawed by a small minority."

Brown was severely beaten by his hooded assailants who kidnaped him on a Lyons street. Shortly prior to this he had assisted in the prosecution of five men, all of whom were acquitted, on charges of slaying Willie Wilson. The latter was shot down by members of a masked band who broke into his home in an attempt to seize him after his name had been connected with petty thefts in the community.

When the verdict of acquittal was returned, Judge Hardeman, presiding, denounced "hooded hoodlums" from the bench.

Doubt existed as to what progress would be made in the investigation tomorrow due to the critical condition of Mrs. Bradley, wife of the solicitor, who was injured in an automobile accident yesterday.

SAYS NO PLACE FOR INVISIBLE EMPIRE

Georgia Jurist Charges Jury to Thoroughly Probe Flogging of Attorney

LYONS, GA., Feb. 21.—(AP)—Declaring "there is no place among white men for invisible empires," Superior Court Judge R. N. Hardeman today urged the Toombs county grand jury to investigate thoroughly the flogging of Wimberley E. Brown, an attorney.

"The whipping post was abolished by the Anglo-Saxon race and I tell you it will not be reestablished in Georgia," he said in his charge. "I never liked the words 'imperial' and 'empire' as applied to government and God knows there is no place among white men for invisible empires.

"Are there men in Toombs county who, with civilized face just under oath can do more righteously or justly than you? You can't indict without evidence. Men can cover their faces, sit in Altamaha swamp and indict and do more than you have a right to do."

Brown was flogged last Christmas eve, shortly after he had aided in the prosecution of several men charged with being members of a hooded band which killed Willie Wilson.

Rewards were posted following the flogging by Governor Walker and by Nathan Bedford Forrest, of the Ku Klux Klan in Georgia, for the apprehension of Brown's assailants.

Herald
Gulfport-Miss.
JAN 1 1927

A New Use of Cotton Goods

Lawyer W. E. Brown, of Toombs County, Ga., was seized, flogged and left in the streets of the town by 40 "robed" men, because he had prosecuted certain persons. The offense involved conspiracy, assault and battery and kidnaping, and was an invasion of the constitutional right of the attorney to "liberty and pursuit of happiness", and was altogether a serious happening. Brown's being a white man, the offense may escape the observation of the Society for the Advancement of Colored People, New York City, N. Y. U. S. A; and, no intoxication being shown, may not come within the purview or survey of the N. P. A. forces.

Brown declared that the floggers "undoubtedly" were klansmen, and that they wore robes and had flour sacks over their heads—which puts the story in the "cereal" class of sensations.

Nathan Bedford Forrest, head of the Georgia klan, denied that the Klan had any part in it.

The local judge said that it was generally known that the Klan had paraded shortly before the flogging, and that the mob, according to Brown "undoubtedly" wore the official insignia.

Mr. Forrest reiterated his denial, saying that the sheriff should arrest any wearing Klan regalia without his written permit.

The county solicitor said a member of the mob, before the whipping admitted they were klansmen.

Forrest retorted that the Klan would offer rewards for arrest of those involved.

"Mobs in flour sacks shall not rule Georgia," declared the Governor, covering the Forrest offer with $1,000 reward, and threatened martial law.

Thus, between the sheriff, and the Forrest, klan and gubernatorial reward offers the grand jury and anti-klan activities, a lawyer may learn who denies him the right to prosecute; why flour sacks should be allowed to conceal violators of his rights, and why this new use of cotton fabrics should be drawn into the movement for a wider use of cotton to help the farmers.

Some regular prosecutors, and especially special prosecutors—often employed to vindicate the feelings of private prosecuting employers—sometimes are very bitter and unsparing, and leave much resentment, hostility and free-lance vitriolic prosecution; but the law, which is master of us all, does not allow a Private Posse the right to chastise them; and when it is done "concealed", it almost is tantamount to carrying concealed weapons.

INVISIBLE EMPIRE SCORED BY JUDGE

"There Is No Place Among White Men for Invisible Empire," Judge Hardeman Tells Jury.

Lyons, Ga., February 21.—(AP)—Declaring that there is no place among white men for an invisible empire, and expressing his willingness to lay down his life in the cause of liberty and justice, Judge R. N. Hardeman began a special term of superior court here today with a forceful charge before the Toombs county grand jury.

The judge began his charge by eulogizing Toombs county and its citizenry. He traced the development of American civilization and the price in lives that it cost our forefathers. He declared that the right of freedom and liberty was the sacred heritage handed down by the founders of the American republic.

"I declare before God and man that these sons will not surrender it but will preserve it with all their strength," he said.

Judge Hardeman declared the whipping post was abolished by the Anglo-Saxon and asked, "Will it be reestablished in Georgia? I tell you, no! I never liked the words 'imperial' and 'empire' as applied to government, and God knows there is no place among white men for invisible empires."

Addressing the members of the grand jury, he said there was no power in the constitution or laws which they could not exercise, and sitting in secret they could make any investigation and find any bill they saw fit, adding, "Are there men out yonder in Toombs county who, with covered faces, not under oath, can do more righteously or justly than you? You can't indict without evidence, yet men can cover their faces, sit in the Altamaha swamp and indict and do more than you have a right to do."

After hearing the charge of Judge Hardeman, the grand jury adjourned to be reconvened tomorrow morning to consider evidence in the whipping of Wimberly Brown, an attorney of Lyons, who was whipped by a masked mob the night of last December 24.

While it has not been disclosed who the witnesses are, or the number that will appear before the grand jury, it is stated that indictments are expected to be returned against several persons who are alleged to have participated in the whipping of Mr. Brown. Following Judge Hardeman's charge the criminal docket of 55 cases was taken up. All these cases have been assigned for trial this week and will be prosecuted by A. S. Bradley, solicitor general of the circuit.

KLAN SEEKS TO RIGHT ERROR OF SOUTHERN DAILY

Ire Of Klansmen Is Aroused When Daily Puts 'Mister' In The 'Wrong' Place

SAVANNAH, Ga., Feb. 2.—A Ford car and another engagement might have been the two forces that saved Seymour Carroll, Southern Field Secretary of the American Humane Education Society of Boston, Mass., with southern headquarters at Columbia, South Carolina, his life. Carroll spent three days in Brunswick, Ga., and visited the schools. An article telling of his presence in the city, in the local white daily newspapers, and referred to him as "Mister" Carroll.

The story begins at the Post Office. A newspaper man mistook him for a local minister of color while he was writing some letters. He approached Carroll at a writing desk in the Post Office, and addressed Carroll as "Parson," saying he had been "informed that the colored people had a cracker-jack good speaker at the school today." Mr. Carroll said, "Yes, he made an interesting talk to the students on Humane Education." "What was his name?" "Mr. Carroll." "What is the name of the society he is President of in Boston," asked the white K. K. K. citizen? "The American Humane Education Society of Boston, Mr. Carroll is the Field Secretary, sir." "That is good, and I thank you so much, "Parson."

They parted. Mr. Carroll had been interviewed by a newspaper reporter. That afternoon, on the front page of the Evening Daily News, was published with catchy headlines: "Mr. Carroll is Brunswick's Guest Today," and at the end, the reporter said, "Although Mr Carroll is white, he is very much interested in the Negro schools; he is one of the most prominent educators in America and is at the Northern winter tourists' golf club here."

That afternoon, the newspapers had just been mailed; Mr. Carroll was discovered to be colored. A search was made for him by what is thought to be the members of the Georgia K. K. K., but he had gone. The newspaper reporter later found out that the same man that he had talked with in the Post Office and had addressed in the usual southern title, when speaking to Georgians of color, as "Parson," was the Boston visitor himself.

The "S. O. S." call went out all over the city, but inquiry led to the final information that Mr. Carroll had departed from the city in a Ford car towards Jacksonville, but he went from Brunswick to Savannah where he had an engagement to deliver an address at the Georgia State Industrial College, in his plea for "kindness to animals."

INVISIBLE EMPIRE SCORED BY JUDGE

Lyons, Ga., Feb. 23.—Declaring that there is no place among white men for an invisible empire, and expressing his willingness to lay down his life in the cause of liberty and justice, Judge R. N. Hardeman began a special term of superior court here today with a forceful charge before the Toombs County grand jury.

The judge began his charge by eulogizing Toombs County and its citizenry. He traced the development of American civilization and the price in lives that it cost our forefathers. He declared that the right of freedom and liberty was the sacred heritage handed down by the founders of the American republic.

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GA. KLAN FLOGGING CASE COMES TO ABRUPT HALT

LYONS, Ga., Jan. 19.—An automobile accident in which Mrs. A. S. Bradley, wife of the Solicitor General, was injured seriously Saturday night, postponed the opening Monday of the Grand Jury inquiry into the flogging near here Dec. 24 of Wimberley E. Brown.

Brown, who had assisted in the prosecution of members of a hooded band charged with fatally wounding William Jackson last July, said he was kidnapped and flogged by a robed and hooded band, the members of which told him they would "teach you to prosecute the Klan." Those tried in the Jackson case were acquitted.

Gov. Walker has offered a reward of $1,000 for the first conviction in the Brown flogging case, and the Klan itself has offered rewards of more than $1,000 for conviction of those involved.

Ku Klux Klan - 1927

Georgia

Brutal Whippings In Two Counties Challenge State

Staff Writer Declares Conditions in Treutlen and Toombs Constitute Serious Menace.

MOB SPIRIT RULES THROUGH DISTRICT

"Moral" Crowd and Bootleggers Terrorize Citizens Without Fear of Punishment.

BY PAUL STEVENSON.

Two brutal and dastardly whippings administered to private citizens of Georgia in recent weeks by bands of masked and robed men have brought to light a situation existing in two Georgia counties, which is going to put to the test of fire the power of the constituted legal machinery of this state to punish two groups who have taken the law into their own hands, have set themselves up as arbiters of community affairs and who have cowed and defied the mass of the people of these two counties, who believe in law and order and are ready at the first opportunity to back the law in eradicating once and for all the evil that exists.

In Treutlen county, near Soperton, the fiendish beating of Editor H. M. Flanders, of the Soperton News, on the night of February 25, and in Toombs county the flogging of Wimberly Brown, a lawyer, on Christmas Eve night last year, brought to light the strange situations existing in these counties. The Soperton whipping was planned and executed by a body of men known as "the whisky crowd" and their victim was an editor who was one of the leaders of the so-called "moral element."

Just a few miles away in the adjoining county of Toombs the masked and robed band was composed of the self-styled "moral forces" and the victim was a man charged with being an ally of "the whisky crowd."

Public Sentiment Flouted.

Yet in both counties 95 per cent of the public sentiment of the mass of the people, if they could express it without personal danger to themselves, would be in favor of meting out rigid and severe punishment to the guilty men.

The Flanders and Brown floggings, contemptible and cowardly as they undoubedly are pale into insignificance, however, when the true story of the whippings in Toombs county is finally, if ever, brought to light in the courts of the state. These whippings served only to turn the light on the situation and thus far it has been a weak and pale ray that has delved into the darkness and secrecy under which the masked men have carried on their dastardly depredations.

In a short investigation made in the last few days the amazing fact has been unearthed that the Toombs county crowd of masked and robed night riders have whipped a minimum of 20 people, probably a maximum of double this number and if all the truth were ever brought to light the total may run into the hundreds.

Weekly Whipping Parties.

For more than one year the masked bands of Toombs county have been indulging in almost weekly whipping parties. They have operated boldly and in apparent defiance of all local law enforcement agencies. They have whipped several women, they have "cleaned out" whole neighborhoods of the county where they suspected whisky selling and immorality. They have marched through the streets of Lyons, the county seat, in full robes. They have even marched up to the sidewalk in front of a prominent store, picked up a young man publicly and later whipped him. They beat one woman over the head with a pistol. They took a preacher whom they suspected of immoral conduct, from a church in the county and whipped him. They took a father, his son and daughter and drove them from the community

whippings beca
moral conduct.
man and whipped him beca he was "drunk and lazy." They whipped another man who entered a plea of guilty when charged with bootlegging and because his fine was not paid for two terms of the court they took him out and flogged him. Another man was whipped because he had separated from his wife. Another was whipped because he "kept company" with a certain widow. They went to [illegible] young farmer and when he is alleged to have drawn a pistol on the masked crowd he was shot to death. Five men were indicted for this killing but all were released because of "lack of evidence." In all these activities the victims were white people.

Many Unreported Cases.

The Toombs county "moral forces" constituing these whipping bands have administered floggings to many people, white and negroes, which have never been reported to law officers. They have run people out of the county who were afraid to come back. They have whipped numerous negroes for failure to work for certain people and in no instance have any of the negroes reported the whippings although some of the best men in Toombs county know of the cases and informed The Constitution of them. Many of the whippings will never be brought to light for the reason one citizen gave. "It is not considered an honor to be whipped by masked men in this county."

These are some of the grippings which preceded the flogging of Wimberly Brown. In the Brown case he had been taken out by masked men one time previously and warned to change his personal conduct, particularly as to drinking. Citizens of Toombs even now say "Wimberly Brown dares not get drunk in this county."

Women Also Whipped.

It is not hard to get the names of many of the people who have been whipped. Ollie Ganey was among the men whipped last spring. He was beaten because he was said to have deserted his wife and had succeeded in having legal charges brought against him in courts postponed. Clary Warren was whipped because the masked band did not think he had paid his fine for bootlegging quick enough. Warren is now serving as a deputy sheriff of Toombs county. Mrs. Beulah Lewis, whom the masked band considered immoral, was whipped and it was on the night she was whipped that Lawyer Brown was taken out by the band and warned. Walter Simon was "drunk and lazy" and was whipped. Willie Wilson was the man who was killed after offering "resistance" to the band. Cliff Collins, his daughter and son were flogged for "immorality." A young man named Durden was whipped, but the reason never trickled out through the "grapevine route" through which apparently every person in Toombs county keeps fully informed of the activities of the band and its accomplishments in the flogging way. A Mrs. Harrison was struck over the head with a pistol when she resisted and because of her delicate condition at the time suffered severe consequences. The "Johnson's Corners" section of the county was "cleaned out" by the masked marauders. The preacher named Jones was whipped and warned to leave the community of South Thomson.



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"Next Monday the grand jury of this county will go into session. What will they accomplish? What can they accomplish? If witnesses are summoned before that body to testify to certain conditions, the chances are, in many instances, that they won't tell anything or will likely perjure themselves to cover up some meanness. So what can a grand jury do?

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Five or six men debarked from the automobile and with their faces covered with cloth walked back to the car in which the editor sat. He was seized and pulled from his seat. He attempted to struggle with the men who grasped him, whereupon he was struck in the eye with a powerful blow delivered by the closed fist of one of the men. This blow struck the editor into insensibility and he has no recollection of what followed. After several minutes he recovered and found that he had been cruelly beaten. He was bloody and dazed but was able to crawl back into his car and drive several miles to his home in Soperton where he obtained medical attention. Just before he was struck in the face one of the men remarked, "We'll learn you what to write in your paper," according to the editor.

Physicians in their examination found that Editor Flanders had been beaten with something like a barrel stave. Numerous long welts were found across his back and his spine was severely bruised. His walking stick which he had used to support himself in walking, was found later on the creek bridge. He observed enough about the men during the attack, however, to suspect their identity and it was on warrants sworn out by the editor and on written statements made to authorities that five men were arrested last Tuesday by Sheriff W. F. Flanders, of Emanuel county.

Five Arrests Made.

Editor Flanders told The Constitution representative that he was sure only distantly related to Sheriff Flanders and not denied by the sheriff that he "fraternized" with men

Thigpen Denies Charge.

According to information obtained at the Constitution representative, any connection with the flogging of Editor Flanders was denied to The Constitution by Sheriff Thigpen. Sheriff Thigpen was in his office at Soperton filling an employee of a Soperton station; R. E. Lee, his father, a farmer, and Henry McLendon, a farmer. Sheriff Thigpen was being charged with the flogging of Flanders. "Flanders is my close friend and also is stated and not denied by the sheriff that he was four men when his friends overtook "Flanders is an invalid," he said. "I had noth-

Ku Klux Klan - 1927

Georgia

Brutal Whippings In Two Counties Challenge State

Staff Writer Declares Conditions in Treutlen and Toombs Constitute Serious Menace.

MOB SPIRIT RULES THROUGH DISTRICT

"Moral" Crowd and Bootleggers Terrorize Citizens Without Fear of Punishment.

BY PAUL STEVENSON.

Two brutal and dastardly whippings administered to private citizens of Georgia in recent weeks by bands of masked and robed men have brought to light a situation existing in two Georgia counties, which is going to put to the test of fire the power of the constituted legal machinery of this state to punish two groups who have taken the law into their own hands, have set themselves up as arbiters of community affairs and who have cowed and defied the mass of the people of these two counties, who believe in law and order and are ready at the first opportunity to back the law in eradicating once and for all the evil that exists.

In Treutlen county, near Soperton, the fiendish beating of Editor H. M. Flanders, of the Soperton News, on the night of February 25, and in Toombs county the flogging of Wimberly Brown, a lawyer, on Christmas Eve night last year, brought to light the strange situations existing in these counties. The Soperton whipping was planned and executed by a body of men known as "the whisky crowd" and their victim was an editor who was one of the leaders of the so-called "moral element."

Just a few miles away in the adjoining county of Toombs the masked and robed band was composed of the self-styled "moral forces" and the victim was a man charged with being an ally of "the whisky crowd."

Public Sentiment Flouted.

Yet in both counties 95 per cent of the public sentiment of the mass of the people, if they could express it without personal danger to themselves, would be in favor of meting out rigidan and severe punishment to the guilty men.

The Flanders and Brown floggings, contemptible and cowardly as they undoubedly are pale into insignificance, however, when the true story of the whippings in Toombs county is finally, if ever, brought to light in the courts of the state. These whippings served only to turn the light on the situation and thus far it has been a weak and pale ray that has delved into the darkness and secrecy under which the masked men have carried on their dastardly depredations.

In a short investigation made in the last few days the amazing fact has been unearthed that the Toombs county crowd of masked and robed nightriders have whipped a minimum of 20 people, probably a maximum of double this number and if all the truth were ever brought to light the total may run into the hundreds.

Weekly Whipping Parties.

For more than one year the masked bands of Toombs county have been indulging in almost weekly whipping parties. They have operated boldly and in apparent defiance of all local law enforcement agencies. They have whipped several women, they have "cleaned out" whole neighborhoods of the county where they suspected whisky selling and immorality. They have marched through the streets of Lyons, the county seat, in full robes. They have even marched up to the sidewalk in front of a prominent store, picked up a young man publicly and later whipped him. They beat one woman over the head with a pistol. They took a preacher whom they suspected of immoral conduct, from a church in the county and whipped him. They took a father, his son and daughter and drove them from the community

whippings beca
moral conduct.
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was "drunk and lazy." They whipped another man who entered a plea of guilty when charged with bootlegging and because his fine was not paid for two terms of the court they took him out and flogged him.

Another man was whipped because he had separated from his wife. Another was whipped because he "kept company" with a certain widow. They went to whip a young farmer and when he is alleged to have drawn a pistol on the masked crowd

him in courts postponed. Clary Warren was whipped because the masked band did not think he had paid his fine for bootlegging quick enough. Warren is now serving as a deputy sheriff of Toombs county. Mrs. Benlah Lewis, whom the masked band considered immoral, was whipped and it was on the night she was whipped that Lawyer Brown was taken out by the band and warned. Walter Simon was "drunk and lazy" and was whipped. Willie Wilson was the man who was killed after offering "resistance" to the band. Cliff Collins, his daughter and son were flogged for "immorality." A young man named Durden was whipped, but the reason never trickled out through the "grapevine route" through which apparently every person in Toombs county keeps fully informed of the activities of the band and its accomplishments in the flogging way. A Mrs. Harrison was struck over the head with a pistol when she resisted and because of her delicate condition at the time suffered severe consequences. The "Johnson's Corners" section of the county was "cleaned out" by the masked marauders. The preacher named Jones was whipped and warned to leave the community of South Thomson.



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Sheriff Thigpen denied to The Constitution representative, any connection with the flogging of Editor Flanders. According to information obtained at Soperton the charge is made that the automobile owned by the sheriff was also is stated and not denied by the sheriff. It is my close friend and "I had nothing to do with the flogging and can prove that I was at home at the time. What hurts me is that I working as hard as I could to bring the guilty men to justice when they got after me The circumstance in which the automobile of the sheriff was burned Flanders was discussed by the sheriff, who attributed this deed to "enemies." "fraternized" with men

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suspected of being in the liquor business.

Other men held in connection with the flogging are referred to as being members of "the whisky crowd." Joe Lee, one of the men, entered a plea of guilty recently on a charge of selling whisky and a week later was drawn as a juryman. A veiled reference to this circumstance was contained in a recent article of Flanders.

Crusade to Go On.

Flanders is confined to his room in the little hotel which he and his wife operate at Soperton. He did not make public any of the evidence on which was based the warrants but has turned the case over to Solicitor Jackson, who also was unwilling to make public the evidence prior to the next session of the grand jury, which is now in recess.

"I am going to stay right on here and continue my fight against lawlessness no matter what they do to me," Editor Flanders said.

After interviewing leading citizens and officers of Treutlen county it is safe to say that 95 per cent of the people of the county want to see the guilty men punished in the Flanders case. Judge N. L. Gillis, Sr., ordinary of the county, said the public sentiment was overwhelmingly in favor of punishing the guilty men no matter who they may be. J. E. Hall cashier of the Bank of Soperton and former Treutlen county representative in the legislature, said the people of the county condemned unqualifiedly the attack on the editor no matter what the editor wrote in his paper. He said there is nothing that the editor could have written that could have justified such an attack. B. H. McLarty, postmaster, declared that the people of the county were incensed over the attack and were ready to back to the limit the constituted authorities in punishing the men guilty of the deed.

Montgomery Whippings.

The long series of whippings in Toombs county also preceded a flogging in Montgomery county near Mount Vernon which occurred on the night of February 5. F. B. Gordon was whipped by a masked band near Uvalda but investigation disclosed that this whipping grew out of enmity arising in some litigation in which Gordon was interested. The Montgomery county grand jury returned indictments in this case against Joe Henry Wolfe, Kenneth Wolfe, Emmett Johnson, John Crosby and Bruce Morris and they will be tried at the May term of the court. H. B. Folsom, former representative of Montgomery county in the legislature, declared that the people of that county are virtually 100 per cent in favor of seeing the guilty men punished in this case and to see that there are no repetitions in the future. From all the circumstances this case, however, is one which involves people interested in a court case recently tried and was due entirely to the enmity arising out of that case.

Future court action in the Flanders case will be determined by the action of the grand jury. This body is now in recess subject to the call of Judge Eschol Graham, of McRae, but to date he has not called the body together to consider the attack on Flanders. The Montgomery case involving the flogging of Gordon will come up for trial at the May term of court.

Solicitor M. H. Boyer, of Treutlen county, states that no definite time has been set for the grand jury to convene, on account of the uncertainty of Editor Flanders' physical condition.

Victim Indicted.

Court action in the long series of masked band activities in Toombs county is uncertain. The grand jury met recently under the call of Judge R. N. Hardeman to investigate the whipping of Wimberly Brown. When the body met Judge Hardeman issued a long charge to the jury deploring the situation and declaring that there are enough good people in Toombs county to put a stop to such activities. The grand jury adopted strong presentments to the effect that "no amount of immorality, no amount of petty crimes or others can ever justify any man or set of men, any organization or organizations in taking the law into their own hands and inflicting punishment without trial or invading the sacred rights of a citizen whose home is safeguarded by the constitution."

After the charge of Judge Hardeman and after the long presentments of the grand jury were published, no indictments of any kind were returned in the flogging affairs save in the case of the minister, Jones. Seven indictments against six men were returned in this case. The special grand jury assembled by Judge Hardeman, however, indicted Wimberly Brown, victim of the floggers, on two charges, one of carrying a pistol and the other of having whisky in his possession. The grand jury will resume its labors March 21.

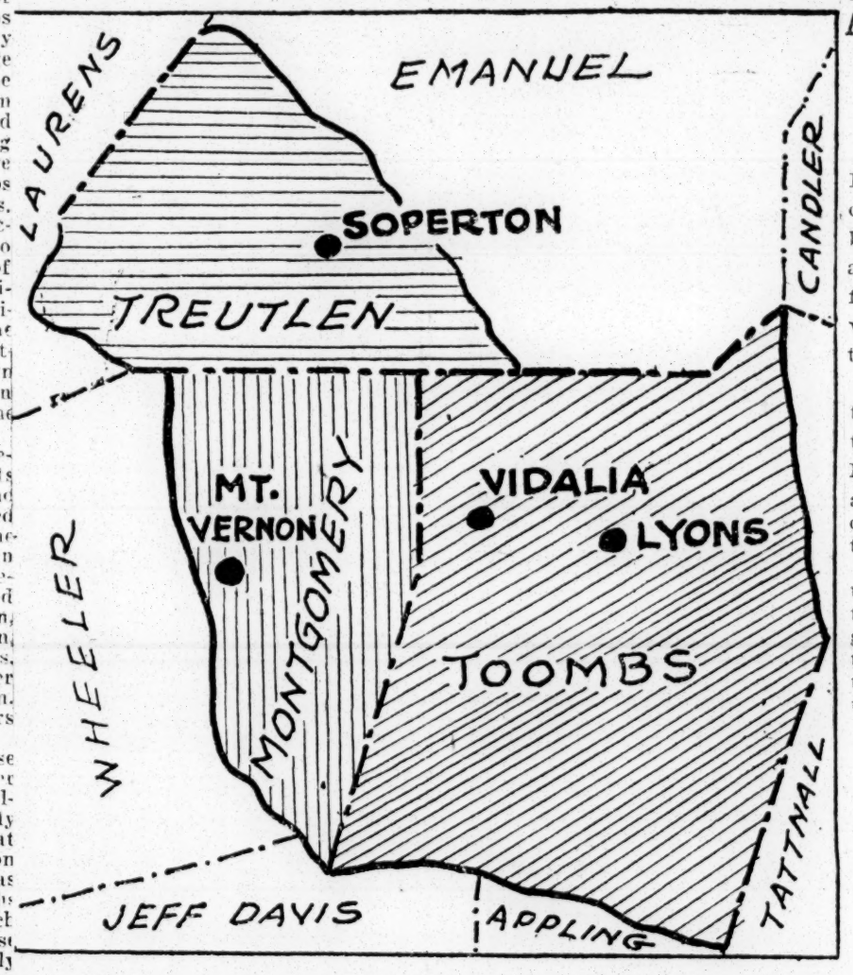
The best people of Toombs, those who are not identified with either the "whisky sellers" or with the zealous "moral forces" are virtually unanimous in their statements that they want to see the whole situation "cleared up." Under conditions as they have existed for many months these citizens have not taken much active part in "cleaning up" because such activity on their part probably would bring them annoyance. It was reported that threats of "barn burning" and of inflicting "trade boycotts" on quiet and orderly citizens who showed any propensity to "investigate," had deterred many of the people from becoming involved in the affair. The masked bands operated boldly and apparently have feared no punishment, according to statements of citizens. The only force hanging above them is that of the grand jury and martial law. With relatives, friends and even fellow members of grand juries they apparently have not been disturbed over probability of punishment, which thus far has been remote. As to martial law they have said they fear no such a contingency.

"Under existing conditions there will be no martial law for masked and robed night-riding bands," is the statement of one member of the band related to the representative of The Constituton by a man of unimpeachable integrity.

The people of the three counties as a whole, however, are in a state of mind where a sincere and aggressive effort on the part of the law enforcement authorities to enforce all laws fairly and without discrimination will receive the hearty and genuine backing of at least 95 per cent of the people.

If the state asserts its authority they will not only respond, but they will be glad of the opportunity to do so.

Seat of Recent Flogging



The above map shows three Georgia counties and principal points in each county where floggers have been active over the past several weeks, the most recent outbreak being the brutal attack on Editor H. M. Flanders, of Soperton, in Treutlen county. In Toombs county and in Montgomery county, floggers in several instances have taken the law into their own hands and administered severe lashings to citizens at the mercy of the mob spirit. It is a very serious situation, and demands quick, vigorous action.

ANOTHER FLOGGING!

The flogging of H. M. Flanders, editor of The Soperton News, adds another disgrace to a section of the state that has suffered much from mob violence. Mr. Flanders, according to reports, is in a serious condition, and the three masked hoodlums who committed the crime are free. In this, and in all such instances, the grand jury should be convened at once, and no effort known to law-enforcement spared to bring the culprits to justice.

If defiance of constituted authority shall be continued in the manner that mobs in that section of south Georgia seem to feel, then the time will come when the majority of good, law abiding citizens will have to seek other sections to live, or be terrorized by and at the

FACE "PEN" FOR WHIPPING NEGRO

Indict Two Whites For The Flogging of Aged Citizen Of Lyons, Georgia

LYONS, Ga., March 23—(Special) In the Toombs county grand jury's sweep-investigation of floggings and other outrages committed by members of masked bands, indictments were returned late Tuesday against two white men for the flogging of an aged colored American citizen.

The men indicted were George Womack and B. F. Brown. They were charged with assault and battery in the whipping of W. A. Griner, aged resident of Cedar Creek. Griner was taken from his cabin and flogged unmercifully.

NEGRO INDICTED AS MURDERER OF WHITE GIRL

Little Rock, Ark., May 3.—(AP)—Indictments charging murder and criminal assault were returned today by the Pulaski county grand jury against Lonnie Dixon, 16, Negro, confessed slayer of Floella McDonald, 12, whose body was found Saturday in the belfry of a church here.

The grand jury at the same time took cognizance of mob demonstrations which followed the arrest of the Negro and issued a warning that action would be taken against any one participating in further attempts to inflict summary punishment.

"This jury proposes to do its duty under any and all circumstances," the statement said, "and any misguided citizen who attempts to take the law in his own hands will have the same measure of justice meted out to him."

THE KLAN APPEAL

The Ku Klux Klan lost its appeal to the United States Supreme Court from the Kansas law forbidding corporations from doing business in that state without first complying with the regulations of the State of Kansas law, relating to corporations organized in other states and desiring to do business in that state. The case was carried up by the Georgia Klan. This decision, the order for which detailing all of the legal points raised, has not been issued up to the time of writing this editorial, will have a rather wholesome effect in discouraging the aggressiveness of this now outlawed, pernicious, un-American organization, born in iniquity, nurtured in race hatreds and bred in the slums of prejudice, crime, violence and murder.

For the last few years the Supreme Court of public opinion has most emphatically decided against this hooded order, North as well as South. Last week the legislature of the State of North Carolina passed a bill barring the Klan and its illegal activities from that State. Texas, in both of its last gubernatorial elections went on record as against the Klan overwhelmingly. Indiana, former hot bed of its religious, political and social influence, shows marked symptoms of reforms. And so on throughout the country this most despicable of invisible empires is dying of ennui and repression. Soon, like its horrible predecessor of reconstruction times, the present Klan will be but a dreadful nightmare, a memory. But what memories it will leave to future generations—villainy, rapine, murder. Too long have the local and federal governments tolerated these hoodlums, this pouy of anarchists. If the State of Kansas has pointed the way for the respective states to rid themselves of this national peril, this nuisance, and the supreme court of the United States given its legal sanction, it is a national service worthy of commendation. Kansas has written her fame lastingly and nobly upon the records as a State emblematic of justice, honor, integrity.

Ku Klux Klan-1927

Georgia.

FIVE MEN AND GIRL GUILTY OF FLOGGING

Thomaston, Ga., February 25.—(AP) Five men and a girl were convicted in the Upson county superior court here today on charges of flogging an old negro couple living in the county and were given a straight sentence of 12 months in the state penitentiary by Judge W. E. H. Stanley, of the Griffin circuit.

Those sentenced were Jim Maulding, Harve Maulding, Olin Maulding, Connie Watson, Claude Foster and Ruth Foster. The three Mauldings are brothers and Claude Foster and Ruth Foster are brother and sister.

The six were convicted on testimony given by the two negroes who were the only witnesses for the state. The negroes alleged that the flogging took place about two weeks ago. They stated that the five men and the girl came to the house where they were living and charged the negro, Frank Gill, with stealing some liquor. The negro denied the theft but the party refused to believe him and carried him and his wife from their home and administered the flogging. The party was not masked and the negro reported the whipping to county officers and the conviction of the floggers followed. All are prominent in Upson county.

SCORING THE MOB SPIRIT

(Atlanta Constitution)

Judge Hutchman of the Toombs circuit interpreted the spirit of the hour in denouncing, in his recent charge to the grand jury at Lyons, any invisible empire, or any organized defiance of constituted authority.

The grand jury had before it consideration of a number of flogging and mob violence cases that have occurred in that county during the past several months. The judge's charge was a ringing appreciation of the overwhelming majority of good, law-abiding people in that county, but a relentless rebuke to those of the hoodlum minority who hide cowardice behind masks and do violence without the law.

In this connection, while public thought has within the past few days been directed back to the foundation of the republic and to the creation of the federal constitution by the fathers, a paragraph from Washington's farewell address should grip the modern mind, as apropos today as it was in those early days. It follows:

"Towards the preservation of your government and the permanency of your present happy state, it is requisite, not only that you steadily discountenance irregular opposition to its acknowledged authority, but also that you resist with care the spirit of innovation upon its principles, however specious the pretext."

The mob strikes at government, at the federal constitution, at the sacredness of institutions. It is an attack that can be repelled only by an overwhelming determination of the people to be unswerved from the truth of allegiance as voiced by Washington 150 years ago.

The Toombs grand jury has already found several true bills.

N. Y. WORLD

MAR 17 1922

GEORGIA AROUSED BY FLOGGING BANDS

Officials and Civic Bodies Join in Campaign to End Outrages by Hoodlums

GOVERNOR URGED TO ACT

Lashing of Editor Gives Impetus to Movement

Special Despatch to The World

ATLANTA, March 16.—What promises to become a determined campaign by State officials and civic organizations throughout Georgia to put a stop to the increasing number of outrages by masked floggers is gaining impetus through the action of a group of Judges, prosecuting attorneys, Grand Juries and private citizens, aroused by the recurrence of mob outbreaks in recent months.

Gov. Clifford Walker is being urged by civic organizations to take drastic action, while various Judges have called special sessions of court to investigate the outrages.

The Christian Council of Atlanta, composed of representatives from more than four score congregations, has adopted resolutions calling upon the Governor to make use of all means at his command to cope with the situation.

Rural Editor Flogged

The reign of the hooded hoodlums in certain districts has been brought more forcibly to public attention by the recent flogging of H. H. Flanders, editor of a rural weekly paper at Soperton, Ga., and the attacks on several persons in the adjoining county of Toombs.

The editor is still in a serious condition from injuries sustained when three masked men waylaid him on a lonely road, dragged him from his automobile and beat him into insensibility because of an editorial in his paper condemning wholesale liquor making in that territory.

Wimberly E. Brown, an attorney of Lyons, Ga., was kidnapped at dusk from the streets of that community, taken into the country and severely whipped by a band of masked men. The Grand Jury of Toombs County, specially summoned by Judge Robert N. Hardeman, is investigating this case.

A resume of the whipping outrages in Toombs County alone during the last year shows that at least twenty white men were flogged by masked bands, with the probability that twice this number of whippings actually occurred, as many Negroes are known to have been beaten in unreported cases.

Several Women Whipped

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"Just then they grabbed me and took me out to the automobile. I was afraid to ask what was the matter. They took Floyd, my 15-year-old boy. They drove several miles out into the country until they reached a lonely spot, where they pulled him and me from the auto.

"Then they took the automobile seat out of the car, placed it on the ground and threw me on top of it. One of the men pinioned my head between his legs, and another pulled all my clothes up over my head.

Then they began beating me with a leather strap, and when I screamed one of the men stuck his fist in my mouth to keep me quiet.

"They whipped me so hard I almost broke with pain. Then they stopped for a minute. One of the men told me I would have to get me still a fourth time.

"Then they took me and my son a distance from where they had cut all denied their guilt and it is using the most abusive most vulgar language I ever had heard. Then they whipped me a third time, and obtained help and had me brought to Gainsville for treatment."

As usual the law is taking action to bring to a halt the criminal outrages. Four whites have been arrested but all denied their guilt and it is expected they will be released.

Cursed and Lashed

Ku Klux Klan - 1927

FIVE MEN AND GIRL GUILTY OF FLOGGING

Thomaston, Ga., February 25.—(AP) Five men and a girl were convicted in the Upson county superior court here today on charges of flogging an old negro couple living in the county and were given a straight sentence of 12 months in the state penitentiary by Judge W. E. H. Searcy, of the Griffin circuit.

Those sentenced were Jim Maulding, Harve Maulding, Otho Maulding, Connie Watson, Claude Foster and Ruth Foster. The three Mauldings are brothers and Claude Foster and Ruth Foster are brother and sister.

The six were convicted on testimony given by the two negroes who were the only witnesses for the state. The negroes alleged that the flogging took place about two weeks ago. They stated that the five men and the girl came to the house where they were living and charged the negro, Frank Gill, with stealing some liquor. The negro denied the theft but the party refused to believe him and carried him and his wife from their home and administered the flogging. The party was not masked and the negro reported the whipping to county officers and the conviction of the floggers followed. All are prominent in Upson county.

SCORING THE MOB SPIRIT

(Atlanta Constitution)

Judge Hardeman, of the Toombs circuit, interpreted the spirit of the hour in denouncing, in his recent charge to the grand jury at Lyons any invisible empire, or any organized defiance of constituted authority.

The grand jury had before it consideration of a number of flogging and mob violence cases that have occurred in that county during the past several months. The judge's charge was a ringing appreciation of the overwhelming majority of good, law-abiding people in that county, but a relentless rebuke to those of the hoodlum minority who hide cowardice behind masks and do violence without the law.

In this connection, while public thought has within the past few days been directed back to the foundation of the republic and to the creation of the federal constitution by the fathers, a paragraph from Washington's farewell address should grip the modern mind, as apropos today as it was in those early days. It follows:

"Towards the preservation of your government and the permanency of your present happy state, it is requisite, not only that you steadily discountenance irregular opposition to its acknowledged authority, but also that you resist with care the spirit of innovation upon its principles, however specious the pretext."

The mob strikes at government, at the federal constitution, at the sacredness of institutions. It is an attack that can be repelled only by an overwhelming determination of the people to be unswerved from the truth of allegiance as voiced by Washington 150 years ago.

The Toombs grand jury has already found several true bills.

N. Y. WORLD

MAR 17 1922

GEORGIA AROUSED BY FLOGGING BANDS

Officials and Civic Bodies Join in Campaign to End Outrages by Hoodlums

GOVERNOR URGED TO ACT

Lashing of Editor Gives Impetus to Movement

Special Despatch to The World

ATLANTA, March 16.—What promises to become a determined campaign by State officials and civic organizations throughout Georgia to put a stop to the increasing number of outrages by masked floggers is gaining impetus through the action of a group of Judges, prosecuting attorneys, Grand Juries and private citizens, aroused by the recurrence of mob outbreaks in recent months.

Gov. Clifford Walker is being urged by civic organizations to take drastic action, while various Judges have called special sessions of court to investigate the outrages.

The Christian Council of Atlanta, composed of representatives from more than four score congregations, has adopted resolutions calling upon the Governor to make use of all means at his command to cope with the situation.

Rural Editor Flogged

The reign of the hooded hoodlums in certain districts has been brought more forcibly to public attention by the recent flogging of H. H. Flanders, editor of a rural weekly paper at Soperton, Ga., and the attacks on several persons in the adjoining county of Toombs.

The editor is still in a serious condition from injuries sustained when three masked men waylaid him on a lonely road, dragged him from his automobile and beat him into insensibility because of an editorial in his paper condemning wholesale liquor making in that territory.

Wimberly E. Brown, an attorney of Lyons, Ga., was kidnapped at dusk from the streets of that community, taken into the country and severely whipped by a band of masked men. The Grand Jury of Toombs County, specially summoned by Judge Robert N. Hardeman, is investigating this case.

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"Then they took me and my son a cut of Toccoa by Monday night. "The

HERALD

Sanford Fla

MAR 1927

OUTLAW THE MASK IN GEORGIA

COLUMBUS ENQUIRER-SUN

Asserting that it has no objection to an antimask law, the Macon Telegraph expresses the belief that 'there is no justification in common-sense for believing that a law forbidding masks would be effective in this state.' The Telegraph is of the opinion, however, that there would be more sympathy with a 'measure that would require all secret orginazations to list their membership with the clerk of the superior court,' and adds:

A law forbidding masks would accomplish nothing. There are laws against lynching and against flogging, but lynchings and floggings continue. Until recently--until, in fact, Georgia made up her mind to administer punishment--there has not even been an arrest for lynching. The remedy has not lain in a law against murder, but in punishment for its violation. There is nothing inherently wrong in a mask; the wrong arises out of what men do when they mask. There must be continuous and honest endeaver to punish those who lynch and those who flog, the snipers who drag men out of their homes or out of their cars and administer brutal punishment, as they did in the Brown and Flanders cases. It is persistency of punishment, under laws that we have, rather than piling up more statutes that mean nothing that will free Georgia of those who are inclined to terrorism. A few good, honest doses of service on the roads of the State will do more to stop floggings and make the mask unpopular than anything else. Georgia could pass five hundred laws against wearing masks and as long as people were apathetic, the courts vacillating and weak, and the officers of the law not diligent, they would accomplish nothing.

The Enquirer-Sun finds it impossible to follow the Telegraph's ine of logic beyond the point where it argues that no laws are worth while unless they are vigorously prosecuted. If the Telegraph's viewpoint were accepted then we ought to have no law against carrying a concealed weapon, but simply depend on the law to punish a man after he has wounded or slain another person.

When the mask is banned by law, there is one weapon of the Klan and its imitators outlawed. If the wearing of a mask is made illegal, then a man dons a mask or flour-sack he admits that he is on an illegal errand. It is quite evident that the Klan desires to cling to its cowardly mask, for it fought against its abolition in North Carolina. The masked gang's lobby gathered at Raleigh in force. The gangsters saw that once the mask was outlawed that the cowardly crew and men of the same despicable ilk would find the klan a failure. The Raleigh 'News and Observer' gives the names of those klan lobbyists in the following paragraph:

Out-of-state men who have formed a continual lobby against the measure outlawing the hooded and secret klan in this state include Ben Sullivan, attorney of Atlanta and one of the founders of the order; Jessie Jones, of Texas; Joe Huffington, of Evansville, Indiana; E. E. Randolph, formerly an officer of the Raleigh klan, but now of Virginia; and Grand Dragon Albert E. Hill, of Spartanburg, S. C., and the ranking officer of the South Carolina klan.

The lobbyist campaign was directed by H. L. Godwin, former congressman from Dunn.

Obviously the masked gang is not in agreement with the Telegraph's opinion that it will be futile to ban the mask in Georgia. These bushwhackers must have something with which to lure the man who wants to flog and assasinate in secret. Rip the mask from the klan's wardrobe of fantastic regalia, and the gang will be given a terrific blow; then force the publication of its membership, and it wil be put out of business.

WHAT WILL STEPHENS DO?

Another chapter of horror has been added to that miserable story of hooded barbarism in Stephens county that has shocked the nation.

A respectable farmer citizen of that county who found the unconscious woman who was a victim of the flogging mob has succumbed to the threats of violence from the perpetrators of the crime, and has become so mentally unbalanced that it has become necessary to place him in confinement, and he will be taken to the insane asylum at Milledgeville.

Thus is again accentuated the extent of human suffering wrought by the merciless acts of barbarians who continue to walk the streets and highways as free men, wreaking vengeance and defying law and shaming civilization.

Following the story of the original atrocity, which found its place on the front pages of newspapers all over the world, doing Georgia an irreparable damage, this second story—the driving of a good, law-abiding citizen to violent insanity—through the vengeance of those who, in defiance of every human decency, would drag Georgia into a cess-pool of terrorism—the second story, one of compounded horror, will find its way also to the front pages of newspapers throughout the world. And the overwhelming element of law-abiding citizens in one of the great states of the nation will pay.

How long, how long shall such a situation continue? Will Stephens county clear her name and avenge these horrors by apprehending and convicting the criminals?

In a statement by Judge I. H. Sutton, of the Habersham circuit, declaring that he would not call a special term of court to investigate the recent severe flogging of a white woman by a Toccoa mob, he said he had been on a trip to the north "and read about the floggings in the newspapers."

Undoubtedly so, for this particular flogging, as cruel as the barbarities of inquisition, has been commented on not only by hundreds of newspapers all over America, but among them have been leading and influential newspapers in every state in the south.

Much of the good advertising that Georgia is doing, though the Georgia association and other state-wide organizations, and through the extensive million-dollar campaign of the forward Atlanta committee, is offset by the stories of the savage, cowardly and sickening activities of mobs, and of mob violences in Georgia, that every now and then find their way to the front pages of the press of the nation.

The particular case of Mrs. Ansley Bowers, who was virtually stripped and beaten with a strap into insensibility, and whose 15-year-old boy was beaten because he protested with a son's devotion, is so revolting that it challenges the decent manhood not only of Stephens county and of Georgia, but of the entire American people. Decent people stand awed that such a thing could occur in a civilized state and nation.

Following is a paragraph from a ringing and a stinging editorial in a North Carolina exchange:

"The Toccoa flogging reveals perfectly what happens when cowardly or incompetent officials surrender to the nightshirt gang. Mrs. Bowers is not the first in Stephens county to be flogged. As the light flashes on the county, more floggings are discovered, more masked and robed bands are seen and more midnight terrorism. Still further in the background rises Toombs county, many miles from Stephens, where for months the floggers paraded at will, kidnaping, abducting, seizing on lighted streets of large towns, and beating men and women as they pleased. Stephens county is the natural and logical result of Toombs county, and both are the result of a spirit of lawlessness which always tends to express itself when the law itself is not strong enough to intervene."

There have not yet been any convictions in Toombs county although in that circuit there is a fearless judge and equally as fearless a solicitor.

It is notorious that in many counties where hooded hoodlumism has prevailed there have existed intimidations and jury box connections that have made the mob conspirators practically immune from penalty. It is a shame upon civilization, and is one of the direct results of Georgia's falacious policy of subdividing the state into a great number of small counties.

In the annals of night-riding barbarism in the state the Toccoa brutality stands out with compounded horror.

And what is going to be done about it?

Is Stephens county going to capitulate to a masked mob of barbarism?

There are hundreds of good and law-abiding citizens in that county. They deplored the floggings. They want justice meted. But if the guilty are not apprehended and punished according to the magnitude of their crime, the whole county will stand indicted before the world, and the law-obeying element will stand condemned in public opinion along with the lawless element.

Not only will Stephens county stand indicted, but the indictment will cover the face of Georgia.

It is a serious matter, and demands the aroused conscience and will and determination of every self-respecting, right-thinking citizen in the state.

Ku Klux Klan - 1927

Georgia.

Victim of Toccoa Flogging Blames Outrage on Klan

Mrs. Bowers in Hospital at Gainesville Says Masked Band of 12 Wore Uniforms of Order.

LEADING CITIZENS CONDEMN WHIPPING

Four Under Arrest Awai Action of Grand Jury on July 4; Warrant Sworn Out by Son.

FORREST CONDEMNS TOCCOA OUTRAGE

Commenting on the reports that participants in the recent flogging of a woman at Toccoa wore robes and insignia of the Ku Klux Klan, Nathan Bedford Forrest, grand dragon of the organization for the state of Georgia, declared Tuesday: "If any member of the Ku Klux Klan took part in the Toccoa flogging, the klan will do its utmost to send him to the state penitentiary.

"I do not believe the klan had anything to do with the flogging, but think rather that others committed this dastardly outrage and attempted to throw the blame on the organization by posing as klansmen," said Mr. Forrest.

"I am making a thorough investigation of the affair and the full weight of the klan will be used towards securing proper legal punishment of the offe ders, whether klansmen or not."

General Forrest stated that there was a local klan in the vicinity of Toccoa.

BY PAUL STEVENSON.
(Staff Correspondent.)

Toccoa, Ga., June 14.—(Special.)—One of the blackest pages that ever stained the criminal history of Georgia was written near Toccoa, under the eerie rays of the moon early last Sunday morning when a grotesquely garbed band of hooded and robed men took Mrs. Ansley Bowers, of Toccoa, to a lonely spot in the backwoods and almost literally flayed her alive, it was revealed in Mrs. Bowers' own story given first to The Constitution from a cot in a hospital at Gainesville Tuesday.

Almost simultaneously with the revelation of her story of one of the most fiendishly cruel attacks ever made on any person in the state, it came to light in Toccoa that Mrs. Bowers was the fifth victim of the band which has been high-handledly whipping and intimidating people in Stephens county and Toccoa for months.

"These men are all members of the Ku Klux Klan, there is no doubt about it. There were 12 of the men in three automobiles. They wore the Ku Klux uniform with a little monogram on their breasts and a peaked hood. They whipped me four times and threatened to brand the letter K' on my back unless I left town," Mrs. Bowers said.

Blame Klan.

In the meantime the people of Toccoa, to almost 100 per cent degree, are standing aghast at the brutality and cruelty of the flogging of Mrs. Bowers and her son, Floyd, and over the revelation of details concerning other whippings in the last few weeks. Men of unimpeachable integrity and honesty, who, for obvious reasons do not desire their names disclosed, declared that it is openly known in Toccoa that the local Ku Klux Klan organization is [illegible] responsible for outrages.

Others who were brutally flogged in the last few weeks are Bert Singleton, a farmer who lives three miles from Toccoa, beaten because it was said that he was a bootlegger. Mrs. Martha Finley, 55 years old, flogged and run out of the county, who is now recovering from the beating given her. She is at the home of relatives near Royston, Ga. Elsie Williams, related by marriage to Mrs. Finley, flogged by the band, ordered to leave town and who now lives at Seneca, S. C. Floyd Bowers, son of Mrs. Bowers, whipped because he is said to have objected to the attack on his mother.

Four Under Arrest.

Four men are under arrest and released under bond charged with participation in the flogging. They are W. J. Acree, principal of a high school at Eastonelle, near Toccoa; T. R. Lowery, sub-foreman of a furniture factory; Elmer Clark, a railroad conductor, and Charles Thomas, railroad employee. Clark and Thomas surrendered late Tuesday afternoon to Sheriff F. A. Stowe, of Stephens county. Warrants for the arrest of these men were sworn out by Floyd Bowers, son of Mrs. Bowers, before Winston Owen, justice of the peace. The men waived preliminary hearing and will await action of the grand jury which meets July 4.

Mrs. Bowers told her story to The Constitution representative while she lay on a cot in the Downie hospital at Gainesville, whence she was taken for treatment.

Womans Story.

"About 2 o'clock Sunday morning I was awakened by a noise of someone breaking in the door and in a moment a band of men, wearing the robe of the Ku Klux Klan, broke in both the front and back doors of my house at Toccoa. They all were armed with pistols and sticks. The man who seemed to be the leader of the party entered my room and ordered me to remove all my clothing. I told him I would not take off my clothes and quickly put on a kimono. Just then they grabbed me and took me out to an automobile. Although I asked them what they wanted me for they would say nothing. I was afraid to open my mouth for fear they would kill me. When my 15-year-old son interfered they grabbed him and put him in one of the three automobiles. They then drove down the Elberton railroad track and turned off into a lonely road a few miles. When they reached a lonely spot they stopped the automobiles and took me and my son out.

"After they had taken us out of the automobile they took an automobile seat from one of the cars and forced me to lie across it. One of the men stood above me and penioned my head with his knees, my head being between his legs. Other men held my feet and hands and they held me face down on the automobile seat. They pulled all my clothing up over my head and one of the men began to strike me on my bare skin with a leather strap about as wide as my hand. I screamed with pain and one of the men stuck his fist in my mouth to stop me from crying.

Used Vulgar Language.

"They whipped me so hard I almost fainted with pain and then they stopped for a minute. One of the men told me that I would have to get out of Toccoa before Monday night. I asked him why they were whipping me, asked them if any of my neighbors or anyone else had said anything against me.

"One of the men then said, 'She don't talk right about this thing, give her some more.' So they put me back down and whipped me again. After the second whipping they began to abuse me and use the most vulgar and filthy language possible. I would not repeat it but it was the most awful language I ever heard. They then took me and whipped me the third time. After this they dared me to tell anybody about the affair.

"One of the men said I had until Monday to get out of town and when I asked them why he replied that I had better get out or they would burn me next time. Another one suggested then that they brand the letter 'K' on me. They then whipped me again and after giving my son a whipping, which was not as severe as the ones they gave me, they took us a few steps away from the car and ordered us to go on back to town and do as they told us to do.

"They left us there and I fell to the ground and my son went to a nearby house and brought back a man who took us back to Toccoa. While I was on the way to the place where they whipped me they said that if my son, who is just 15 years old and just finished school, did not go to work immediately they would whip him again."

Physicians at the Downie hospital declared that the lower part of Mrs. Bowers back, her hips and part of her legs were almost flayed. The Bowers youth was not as severely injured, although he was given a brutal whipping.

Gossiping Man Blamed.

Floyd Bowers declared that he counted 82 blows struck on his mother by the band. Mrs. Bowers has been separated from her husband for two years and she said this phase of the situation had nothing to do with the whipping as her former husband is as much incensed over the affair as she is.

Some of the leading citizens of Toccoa, who asked that their names not be used in connection with the information furnished, declared that the Ku Klux Klan unquestionably was the organization which perpetrated the outrage.

One business man told The Constitution reporter that the local klan was incited to whip Mrs. Bowers by an old man who lives near her who has been gossiping about her for weeks. This old man was so persistent in his gossip that the chief of police of Toccoa was told of the case and he watched Mrs. Bowers for five nights to find if there were anything irregular about her conduct and he reported that he found nothing against her. This citizen declared that the report that Mrs. Bowers was "of loose character" was the report which led the band of masked men to flog her.

Other Women Victims.

The charge of "loose character" also led to the whipping of Mrs. Finley and the Williams girl, although one of the leading citizens of Toccoa, a man known all over the state, declared that these people had been working for years at a local cotton mill, were earning a good living and supporting themselves and that no question had been raised as to their character for many years.

The aged Mrs. Finley was whipped so severely that she was unable to leave town for several days although she was ordered not to let another sun set on her in Toccoa. A few days ago she mustered enough strength to take the trip to the home of a relative near Royston. The Williams girl went to Seneca, S. C., and is afraid to come back to Toccoa as she feels that she will be killed if she returns, according to her statement given to a friend in Toccoa who told it to The Constitution.

When Bart Singleton was whipped one man stood on one of his hands, another stood on his other hand, two men held his feet and he was whipped so brutally that his shirt was beaten into his skin. His wife had to work with him for hours removing pieces of the garment from the abrasions and lacerations.

As the shocking and revolting details of the flogging of Mrs. Bowers and of the whipping of the other people came to light the people of Toccoa stood absolutely aghast Tuesday. The band of masked men operated so openly and so boldly that they took little pains to conceal their identity, according to statements made to The Constitution by the leading citizens interviewed. The wife of one of the members of the band told openly of the participation of her husband in the attack on Mrs. Bowers. She said he returned home early Sunday morning and was smiling over the affair.

"Everything went off smoothly," his wife declared he had reported.

Although the other brutal whippings were known in Toccoa almost as soon as they were pepetrated no word was sent to newspapers in other cities. The revelation of the whippings came to light when the attack was made on Mrs. Bowers.

Sure of Identity.

In the Gainesville hospital Tuesday Mrs. Bowers declared she was certain of the identity of three of the men, while her son said he was certain of the identity of four.

"One of the men in the party is a big church man and takes a leading part in Sunday school work," she said.

Sheriff Stowe declared Tuesday that it is his desire to uphold the law in Stephens county and that he will make every effort to see that the law is enforced. He said if warrants were presented to him for men suspected of taking part in the attack he would arrest them no matter who they are or how high their standing in the community may be.

Since the men arrested waived preliminary hearing no action can be taken in their cases until the grand jury meets July 4. One of the members of the Toccoa bar who asked that his name not be used expressed grave doubt that any convictions will follow.

"You cannot get a jury in this county that hasn't a member of the Ku Klux Klan on it," he said. "They will not convict fellow members and no Ku Kluxer will reveal anything about a case to the grand jury."

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JUN 20 1927

MARCHING THROUGH GEORGIA.

Georgia and the Ku Klux Klan are again in an unenviable spotlight. Eighty-two blows on a woman's naked back; her son beaten; threats of branding with the letter K—all done by a gang of men in Georgia dressed in Klan regalia.

Just as it began to look as if violent outbreaks of this kind were on the decrease, along comes a particularly cowardly assault on a defenseless woman and her son. It is perhaps unfair to chalk up this crime against the Klan, for the state officers of that organization deny that any of their members had a hand in it; assert further that if one of their number was concerned they will be the most strenuous in bringing him to justice. It is possible that other men masquerading in the familiar habiliments of the Klan perpetrated the outrage; but it is impossible not to feel some resentment that an organization exists which can be made an excuse for cruel excesses of this sort. The standard once set, others took to the sheets and pillow cases for a protection in their evil-doing.

An old man's gossip is supposed to have been the origin of the affair. Gossip is a poor foundation for such brutality. The guilt of the floggers is doubled; for they not only went outside the law to do their will, but accepted the idle rumors spread by a garrulous old man. The South has an evil reputation for lawlessness in the name of justice. Lynching is still prevalent. South Carolina had its Aiken affair, with the shooting of accused Negroes. Florida and Alabama had their peonage and prison scandals. Georgia has joined the ranks with another bid for notoriety. If the South wishes to keep the Dixie ballads from becoming even more hollow and ridiculous than they are already, it will have to take drastic action against the ignorant brutality and intolerance of many of its residents.

GEORGIA LEARNS HOW TO CONVICT

It will be a long time before we cease to feel a sense of satisfaction at the conviction of Acree, the Toccoa Good Boy who captained the mob that flogged a helpless Georgia woman and then flogged the child of her womb who protested against their cruelty.

It is to be regretted that Acree is found guilty only of "assault and battery," but the State may yet have a special session with him over the little matter of perjury. He swore he was not present at the flogging, but was away on an errand of mercy—he was administering to the needs of a neighbor's sick cow, but the jury believed this to be a lie.

Old Georgia, incidentally, seems to have made up its mind that cruelty must be stopped in that State. It not only has sent a number of lynchers to the pen, but is now convicting floggers. We congratulate the grand old commonwealth.

Two More Surrender In Georgia Mob Case

TOCCOA, Ga., June 14 (A. P.)—Elmer Clark, railroad conductor, and Charles Thomas, brakeman, surrendered to the Sheriff here late to-day to answer warrants charging them with being members of a robed and hooded band which flogged Mrs. Ansley Bowers and her fifteen-year-old son, Floyd, near here early Sunday.

They denied knowledge of the incident, and upon being taken before a Justice of the Peace were released on $300 bonds each pending a hearing.

Their arrest brought to four the number of men held on information furnished the authorities by Floyd, who said he and his mother recognized some of the twelve men forming the whipping party and who swore out warrants against the four charging them with participation in the flogging.

The other two are W. J. Acree, principal of the Eastonville High School, and T. R. Lowery, foreman of a furniture factory, who likewise denied the charges and were released on bond following arrest yesterday.

Details of three other floggings in Stevens County in recent months, in which two of the victims were women, were brought to light to-day simultaneously with a statement by Mrs. Bowers from a hospital at Gainesville, Ga., in which she is confined, accusing her assailants of wearing Ku Klux Klan regalia.

NEGRO FLOGGED

Georgia Sheriff is Investigating Action By Band of Hooded Men

MILLEDGEVILLE, GA., June 30.—(AP)—The flogging of Jesse Thomas, negro, by a band of hooded men who forcefully took him from his residence near here last Monday night became known today with the announcement by Sheriff T. T. Terry that he was making an investigation.

Thomas has disappeared, Sheriff Terry said, and [illegible] at a loss to ascribe a motive for the attack.

Flogging of Negro To Be Probed Monday By Baldwin Grand Jury

Milledgeville, Ga., July 10.—(AP)—The Baldwin county grand jury will convene here tomorrow to investigate the flogging of Jesse Thomas, negro, who was seized in his home on the night of June 27 by a group of men and carried several miles from here and beaten until his body was bloody.

Actual hearing of testimony in the flogging case will not take place until Tuesday as the organization of the grand jury will consume most of the time Monday.

An investigation of the whipping has been made by Sheriff S. L. Terry and eight or more citizens of the county have been summoned to appear before the grand jury. Solicitor General Joe B. Duke is assisting in the investigation.

Since the flogging, Thomas, the victim of the lash, has disappeared and Sheriff Terry has been unable to find any trace of him. Rumors are current here that several citizens know where the negro is hiding, and word has even passed around mysteriously that Thomas will be produced for the grand jury hearing tomorrow.

Thomas is under $200 bond on charges of robbing the Central of Georgia depot several months ago, and he is due to go on trial in a few days.

Different versions of the flogging have been heard here through various sources. Some insist that the floggers were not masked, although first reports on the case indicated that the identity of the men was concealed.

4 MEN GIVE UP IN FLOGGING

Special to The Georgian.

TOCCOA, Ga., June 15.—Four men were under bond of $200 each today to await action of the July grand jury on felony charges in connection with the flogging of Mrs. Ansley Bowers, of Toccoa, by a robed and hooded band last Saturday night.

They are W. J. Acree, principal of the high school at Eastonelle, near Toccoa; T. R. Lowery, subforeman of a furniture factory; Elmer Clark, railroad conductor, and Charles Thomas, railroad employe. Warrants for their arrests were sworn out before Justice of the Peace Winston Owen by Floyd Bowers 15-year-old son of Mrs. Bowers. He declared he could identify them as members of the band. The boy was taken out with his mother, because he attempted to protect her, and he, too, was severely beaten, though not as badly as his mother.

Flogging Case To Be Called At Toccoa on Tuesday

Toccoa, Ga., July 10.—(Special.)—With the tenseness that has prevailed here since the flogging of Mrs. Ansley Bowers and her son on Sunday somewhat relieved by the trial last week of W. G. Acree, who was convicted of participation in the whippings, this section spent a quiet Sunday.

Cases other than those involving floggings will be taken up here tomorrow in Stephens superior court, it is announced by Robert McMillan, solicitor general.

The solicitor has announced that he will probably take up the flogging case Tuesday of Bart Singleton, a farmer who was whipped on March 11 after being charged with bootlegging. Acree, Jim Aderholdt, Mose Jordan, Hendrix Wiley and Bart Lowry were indicted last week by the grand jury in the Singleton case.

It is expected that Acree will be sentenced in the Bowers case at the conclusion of the Singleton trial, sentence having been deferred Saturday when the verdict of guilty was returned by the jury.

CHAIN GANG TERM PROMPTS FLOGGER TO ASK NEW TRIAL

School Teacher Convicted of Beating Woman Also Ordered To Pay Fine of $100; Mob Rule Scored

TOCCOA, GA., July 16.—(AP)—Pending hearing on a motion for a new trial, W. G. Acree, former principal of the Stephens county high school, sentenced to one year on the chain gang and fined $100 following conviction on a charge of participating in the flogging of Mrs. Ansley Bowers on June 12, was released on bond of $2,300 today.

The motion for a new trial will be heard in superior court on October 22. Counsel for Acree announced that an amended motion for a new trial will be filed as soon as records of the trial are completed.

Judge I. H. Sutton in passing sentence on Acree today, scored mob rule. "You struck not only at this woman (Mrs. Bowers) but the whole structure of our civilization," Judge Sutton declared.

"The rule of might and the strongest is the very reverse of our civilization and society and every lick struck this woman was a blow against that sacred structure and the law. Such methods and tactics will not be allowed in this section or circuit as long as I am on the bench."

Before being sentenced, Acree, with Bart Lowry, Mose Jordan, Hendrix Riley and J. S. Aderholdt was acquitted of charges of flogging Bartow Singleton, a farmer. The jury deliberated in this case less than half an hour.

Elmer Clark, Claud Groover, Charley Thomas and T. R. Lowry will not be tried until court reconvenes in the fall. They are under indictments charging participation in the flogging of Mrs. Bowers. Clark who was tried this week was given a mistrial Friday, when the jury failed to agree.

FLOGGERS AND THE LAW

Not all those prosecuted in Georgia for flogging helpless people can be convicted, but the very fact that prosecutions are vigorous will have a strong deterring effect. Juries in this state seem to be doing pretty well, on the whole, and they will do better as the crusade to put floggers behind prison bars gathers momentum.—Albany Herald.

Nor is it likely that all those prosecuted in Alabama for flogging helpless men and women can be convicted. But vigorous prosecutions, with convictions wherever it is possible to obtain them and proper punishment of those found guilty, will have a tremendous salutary effect on the flogging evil in this State. It would not take a great many convictions to put a stop to flogging in Alabama. Prompt and vigorous action on the part of the forces of the law is all that is necessary. When floggers see that the law means business, then will they be afraid to venture abroad at night on their cruel errands, even under the double cover of darkness and the hood.

Juries in Georgia do seem to be doing pretty well, on the whole, as The Herald says. Georgia has shown that it can convict lynchers. It is now showing that it can convict floggers. W. G. Acree, convicted in the Toccoa flogging case, has been sentenced to one year's imprisonment on the chain gang and fined $100 in addition. The prison sentence in this case, we believe, was the limit of the law. Several other defendants in the Toccoa cases have been acquitted by juries. But, as The Herald says, not all those prosecuted for floggings can be convicted. Some may be prosecuted who actually are innocent. In other cases there may be a reasonable doubt in the minds of the jurors as to the guilt of the persons accused. Naturally, acquittals will follow in such cases.

Georgia has set an example for Alabama. That this State will live up to it is the fervent hope of every citizen who deplores mob violence. We trust that none of the guilty shall escape conviction and punishment. But regardless of the number of convictions obtained, much good can be done by prompt and vigorous prosecutio

Ku Klux Klan-1927 1.

Georgia.

Opp, Ala., News

NOV 24 1927

Ku Klux Klan Organized 12 Years Ago Tonight

Death Of The Old Klan, Origin Of The New By A Former Opp Preacher.

William J. Simmons Once A Citizen Of Opp and Married Here..

As the modern Ku Klux Klan will be 12 years old tonight we will offer our readers the following bits of history as to the death of the old Ku Klux Klan and the organization of the modern klan, spiced with local history of interest to Opp and community. Rev. William J. Simmons was once a citizen of Opp and married an Opp girl and later became the Imperial Wizzard of the Ku Klux Klan, being the real founder of the Modern Ku Klux Klan.

To people of Opp and vacinity it will no doubt be of much interest to know that the foster father of the modern Ku Klux Klan was once a citizen of this town. Some of our older citizens knew him well but it will no doubt be news to the most of our citizens to know that he built the first Methodist church here and was pastor of this church two years. Opp was founded in 1901, and Rev. W. J. Simmons father of the Klan came here as a Methodist preacher the following year.

At first he held meetings in a warehouse. One time he had some dodgers printed and circulated announcing his subject the coming Sunday. He was to preach in the warehouse and his subject was to be "Wiggle Tail Religion". The preacher had advertised his "Wiggle Tail Religion" discourse well in big type and had expected a real big congregation at his eleven o'clock service. But he had failed to take notice of an all-day Sacred Harp singing at Cool Springs 1½ miles from town on the same day, and early Mr. Simmons became disappointed when everybody he saw coming passed on by and headed straight toward the singing. So he was compelled to postpone his "Wiggle Tail" sermon until that night. At another service, Preacher Simmons had painted a Devil picture on a barrel with the tail wrapped around the barrel. It attracted considerable comment among the few villagers.

Simmons was resolute and possessed much orriginality. He was likeable with the masses, but was insubordinate to those over him. He wrote a letter to the Conference once. He didn't like something that had been done by the Conference, or was about to be done, and he took it upon himeslf to instruct the body. So he wrote to the Conference a piece of his mind. A presiding elder later speaking to a local citizen about the letter said, "Nobody but a genius could have written such a letter and nobody but a fool would have written it." The presiding elder, our older citizens say, had him down about as he was.

Soon after he came here he got his church organized and the congregation had agreed to build a house for worship. Funds were raised and the lumber bought and hauled to the lot that had been selected. A day had been set when the settlers would meet and begin to build the house. The preacher was the only man that 'met'. At the next service another day was set for the working but again Pastor Simmons was the only worker. A third time it turned out the same way. Determined to build a church in the new village of Opp, the preacher with handsaw and square went to work. Dr. Dalton came along that morning and saw the preacher working at it alone, and asked, "Brother Simmons, are you going to build it by yourself?" Simmons replied, "Yes, or I'm going to ruin some mighty good lumber," and he worked on. Passers-by would stop to see how he was getting along, what he was building, or just to idle away a little time, and he always put them to work. He always had something he could put them doing. In this way, W. J. Simmons, father of the modern Ku Klux Klan, built the first Methodist church in Opp.

He remained in Opp two years and got married here, marrying the daughter of Jim Shines who lived between Opp and Poley.His first matrimonial attempt is said to have been a failure when his intended bride went back on him and married another man after he had every thing all fixed up.

After he moved to Atlanta, his father-in-law went to live with him and died about four years ago at his home there. The body was shipped back here and buried at Hickory-Grove cemetery. It was accompained here by the former Methodist preacher who had by this time risen to world-wide fame as Emperial Wizzard of the Ku Klux Klan. While here he visited for a short while at the home of Dr. T. E. Dalton who was a close firend in the early days of Opp and also visited the church he had built with his own saw and hammer In one end of the meeting house, he had built a little extension which he called "The bull's eye." He went into the church which was at that time still in use and gave it a close inspection. He wore a silk hat, Prince Albert coat and carried a gold headed walking cane. His attire denoted prosperity.

So far as is known, besides building Opp's frist Methodist church, he was the first and only person that ever visited Opp by rail for whom the L. & N. Railroad Company ordered the passenger train held here until he got ready to go. When he came here to his father-in-law's funeral, such an order was given. Since leaving Opp in the latter part of 1903 or the early part of 1904 as a Methodist preacher that the Conference would hardly recognize, almost penniless, Rev. W. J. Simmons had risen to world fame and much wealth, weilding an influence in the realm of the Ku Klux Klan then millions strong equal to that weilded by the Pope of Rome in his kingdom.

Preacher Simmons served the church at Brantley after leaving Opp. The Conference would not give him a big charge and later offered him one in another part of the state that he thought was too insignificant to stay on. He asked the Conference for another and was denied. He then quit the Conference and became an organizer of the Modern Woodmen of the World.

While connected with the Modern Woodmen of the World he studied the organization of the old Ku Klux Klan. He got together a number of former members of the old Ku Klux Klan that terrorized the negroes of the South during reconstruction days. These old members gave to Simmons many of the old Klan's secrets and principles which were to be incorporated in the new Klan.

The Old Ku Klux Klan

Many people think that "The Old Ku Klux Klan served its purpose and disbanded." But this statement is misleading. The Old Klux Klan was put out of business by the laws of the Federal government and supplemented by most of the eleven states of south in which it was operating.

The first bill intended to suppress the old Ku Klux Klan was passed in April, 1871. In the next month the second Ku Klux bill was passed. In 1872 federal troops were sent into the south to back up the president's anti-Ku Klux proclamation. By the end of that year, the organization was about dead.

At various times individuals in the south undertook to ressurrect the Ku Klux Klan, but it was left for William J. Simmons to succeed.

During the whole of one session of congress senators and representatives serving in Washington just after the Civil War occupied themselves in stripping the mask from the old Ku Klux Klan. Congress made investigations, sent investigators whose duty it was to enter the portals of the invisible empire and discover what was hiding behind the mask. They reported that the Ku Klux Klan, robed as ghosts, was waging midnight warfare. Congress passed legislation which suppressed the order. Action was quick. Almost before the government printing presses had finished turning out ten volumes in which the committee recorded the results of their investigation, the robes and hoods had gone out of fashion.

When congress met for its forty-second session in 1871,

the cross bones and skull and coffin with which the Ku Klux was making threats had become the symbol of terrorism in the south. So grave had the situation become to be considered on the floor of the house speakers on the floor classed the Klan "less formidable, but not less dangerous to American liberty than the just-ended war of rebellion". They charged that as well as binding its members to execute crimes against its opponents, it protected them against conviction and punishment by purjury on the witness stand and in the jury box. Representatives asked why, of all offenders, not one had been convicted.

On Mar. 23, 1871, President Grant sent a message to both houses in which he recommended that all other business be postponed until the Klan was made subservient to the Flag. He recommended such legislation as would secure life and liberty in all parts of the United States, and suggested that it might be best to provide that the anti-Ku Klux laws should expire at the end of the next session of congress.

Pages of the Congressional Globe, as the present Congressional Record was then called, were filled up with reports of the Ku Klux investigations. Both white and colored victims of the Klan were taken to Washington from most of the southern states. It is said that the documents thus secured might have made a primer for later Lenines and Trotzskys.

The report of the Congressional committee is a recital varying from mirth to murder. In one county the victim of the hooded Klan might be an itinerant minister who had offended the Klan by teaching a negro mammy to pray. Next door a Ku Klux sign, with a coffin painted in blood, might be hung over the dead body of a bad negro whose freedom had made him saucy. When a negro ignored a note carrying the Ku Klux skull and cross bones and voted Republican instead of "conservative", his body, ornamented with skull and cross bones in blood, might be found the next morning in the middle of the road, lifeless.

When the act suppressing the Klan was approved by President Grant on April 10, 1871, it was estimated that the night riders were operating in elevan states of the south. Six months later, in October, President Grant issued a proclamation calling on members of illegal associations in nine counties in South Carolina to disberse and surrender their arms and disguise in five days. Five days afterwards, another proclamation was issued suspending the privileges of the writ of habeas corpus in the counties named in his first. More than 200 persons were arrested in a few days, and this practically killed the old Klan.

During the arguments on the floor of the house, the verb "Kukluxed" became synonomous with "intimidated". Opponents on the floor of the house advocated a policy of amnesty for every rebel, hanging for every Ku Klux.

The modern Ku Klux Klan would have the people believe that the Klan cross is an emblem of the Cross of Christ. But it was really derived from the cross bones used by the old Ku Klux Klan, a symbol of death, as used on the labels of deadly poisions.

The New Ku Klux Klan

The new Ku Klux Klan has been a gold mine for its promoters. Millions upon top of millions have been paid into the coffers of the new Klan. Millions of men have paid in multiplied millions for dues and robes.

William J. Simmons, the Methodist minister of our own Opp in her early days was the man that resurrected the old Ku Klux Klan and put life anew into its dead body. He organized the modern order of the hood and night shirt on Stone Mountain, near Atlanta, Ga., on Thanksgiving night, 1915. Mr. Simmons and 34 other men, some of whom had belonged to the old Ku Klux Klan, met there and swore their allegiance to "Imperial" Wizzard William J. Simmons of the Invisible Empire, Knights of the Ku Klux Klan." Simmons and his 34 associates secured a charter from the state of Georgia on December 4, 1915. The charter was signed by Philip Cook, who was then secretary of state of that commonwealth. Later, on July 1, 1916, a special charter was issued by the supreme court of Fulton County, Ga. The granting of the charters followed the organization of the Klan which occured with midnight ceremonies on the top of Stone Mountain, near Atlanta, Ga., Thanksgiving night, 1915, 12 years ago to night.

In referring to the first ceremonies, Simmons wrote as follows in the official records of the Ku Klux:

"On Thanksgiving night, 1915, men were seen emerging from the shadows and gathering round the spring at the base of Stone Mountain, the world's greatest rock, near Atlanta, Ga., and from there repaired to the mountain top, and there under the blazing firey cross they took the oath of allegiance to the Invisible Empire, Knight of the Ku Klux Klan.

"And thus on the mountain top that night, at the midnight hour, when men braved the surging blasts of the wild wintry mountain winds and endured a temperature for below freezing, bathed in the sacred glow of the firey cross, the Invisible Empire was called from its slumber of half a century to take up a task and fulfill a new mission for humanity's good, and to call back to mortal habitation the good angel of practical fraternity among men."

In the above, Simmons referred to "Temperature far below freezing." The official weather reports of the region for that night will show that the temperature was 30 degrees above the freezing point, indicating that Simmons drew erroneously on his immagination about how cold was the weather.

It is thought Simmons had a fraternal order in mind when he organized the modern Ku Klux Klan. He was a good talker, and was resolute, but lacked business ability to put such things over. The Ku Klux Klan, in its early re-organization, did not prosper under our former preacher's direction.

Then he met Edward Y. Clark and Mrs. Elizabeth Tyler. Clark and Mrs. Tyler were the owners of the Southern Publicity Association of Atlanta. During the war they had been publicity agents for various "drives", which they had managed for the Y. M. C. A., the Y. W. C. A., the Salvation Army and such enterprises. Clarke saw the value of the publicity that could be coined from the old name of the Ku Klux Klan and entered into an arrangement with Simmons to promote the Klan. He agreed to give Simmons $100 a week if Simmons would follow his directions. Simmons was to brush up on delivering speeches and writing articles for the Searchlight, a magazine which Clarke founded as the official organ of the Ku Klux.

From this joining of forces Simmons, Clarke and Mrs. Tyler became rich in a few years. The Klan soon had millions of members all over the United States. Clarke became the "Imperial Kleagle," or boss salesman of memberships. Mrs. Tyler was made Grand Chief of Staff in charge of the woman's division of the Klan.

Promoters Have Court Record

According to "Ku Klux Klan Exposed" a booklet dealing with both the old and the new Ku Klux Klan investigation of the police and court records of Atlanta disclosed that Clarke and Mrs. Tyler were arrested in their night clothes in a house that Mrs. Tyler owned at No. 185 South Pryor street, Atlanta. This occured in October 1919. Clarke gave the name of "Jim Slaton" and Mrs. Tyler gave the name of "Mrs. Elizabeth Carroll."

The cases were on the book of the Recorder's court as City of Atlanta versus E. Y. Clarke and City of Atlanta versus Mrs. Elizabeth Tyler, page 305 of the docket of 1919, case numbers 17,005 and 17,006. The police were put on the trail of the pair by Clarke's wife.

In addition to the charge of disorderly conduct, a charge of possessing whiskey illegally was placed against Mrs. Tyler and Imperial Kleagle Clarke. This was an amazing charge against Clarke because he had been known as one of the leaders of the anti-saloon movement in Georgia. The whiskey charge was dropped when J.Q. Jett, son-in-law of Mrs. Tyler, claimed ownership of the whiskey and was fined $25.

The Klan is supposed to stand for the respect of women and children. The records of the Atlanta courts contain charges against Inperial Kleagle Clarke that he deserted and abandoned his wife and child. Mrs. Clarke went to work to support herself and her little son. A suit for divorce was filed in October 1919, by Mrs. Clarke who charged that her husband, Imperial Kleagle Clarke, had deserted her three years previously. After his arrest with Mrs. Tyler, Clarke agreed to pay his wife $75 a month. Later, when he had become prosperous in the Ku Klux Klan, he brought her a $10,000 house.

When newspaper men began to investigate Mrs. Tyler and Clarke, they discovered that the official records of the Atlanta police department and the Recorder's office had been multilated. Somebody had stolen the pages from the books containing the records of the cases. Members of the Ku Klux

Ku Klux Klan - 1927 II Georgia 8

Klan were numbered among the police and official attaches of the city and it was thought that these helped to destroy the records in behalf of their leaders. Opelika, Ala

Later, dissension came up in the ranks of the modern Ku Klux Klan. One faction wanted to make Hiram W. Evans head. Evans finally won out over Simmons and Evans is still the Imperial Wizzard. Simmons was routed and the last we heard of him he was in Florida trying to organize another similar order which he called "The Flaming Sword." It is said that his Flaming Sword order has not met with success financially and that Simmons has lost much of the gold he coined in the Klan.

Ku Klux Klan- 1927 I. Georgia.

5 MEN FREED IN FLOGGING CASE AT TOCCOA

Quick Verdict Given in Trial of Defendants Charged With Beating Farmer.

ACREE TO RECEIVE SENTENCE TODAY

Elmer Clark Gets Mistrial in Bowers Whipping After Jurymen Fail To Agree.

BY BEN COOPER,
Staff Correspondent.

Toccoa, Ga., July 15.—Reaching a verdict after deliberating less than 30 minutes, the jury in the case of five men charged with having flogged Bart Singleton, a farmer here, on March 11 returned a verdict of not guilty tonight.

The men on trial here in Stephens superior court since Thursday morning on a charge of assault with intent to murder were W. G. Acree, who was convicted last week of participating in the whipping of Mrs. Ansley Bowers, Mose Jordan, Hendrix Wiley, J. S. Aderholt and Bart Lowry.

The jury which freed the five men was composed of J. W. Gilbert, J. R. Crump, W. J. Finley, J. F. Smith, J. D. Keller, Ellis Cox, E. H. Edwards, E. D. Davis, O. C. Bailey, L. H. Scott, S. L. Thomas and H. F. Sayers.

Evidence in the case ended this afternoon and after arguments by the attorneys and the charge by Judge I. H. Sutton, the jurymen received the case at 10 o'clock and before 10:30 the verdict had been rendered.

The Singleton verdict of acquittal followed the mistrial declared earlier in the day in the case of Elmer Clark, tried on a charge of having participated in the flogging of Mrs. Bowers and her son, Lloyd, on June 11. The Clark jury had been out since Wednesday. It was rumored that the Clark jury stood nine to three for conviction.

It was stated tonight that the other three men, Claud Groover, Charlie Thomas and T. R. Lowry, indicted jointly with Acree and Clark in the Bowers flogging will not be placed on trial until the October term of court here, due, it is said, to the fact that the court officials are to open superior court in Gainesville Monday.

To Sentence Acree.

Judge Sutton announced tonight that sentence would be pronounced upon W. G. Acree Saturday morning in the Bowers case.

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"Mr. Acree said 'You ain't talking right to me.' " Singleton said, "and then they whipped me twice more.' Adderholdt accused Singleton of not coming to meetings and of not sending his boy to Sunday school, stating that he would have to come to meetings and bring the boy to Sunday school, Singleton said. Jordon, Lowry, Adderholdt and Acree were at the house, while Wiley was waiting with two others at the church, he said.

Singleton said he lived on the Elberton road about two miles from Toccoa and that the whipping took placed at the end of the graveyard at Liberty Hill church. There were 13 men in the party all together at the church, he said. They rode in three cars, one a sedan, another a coupe and the third a touring car. He said that the touring car belonging to and was driven by Adderholdt. Acree's sedan was well known to him, as he had seen it on numerous occasions with Acree at the wheel, and it was the only one in the county that he had ever seen with yellow wheels, he said. Singleton added that he has seen Acree since in this car, as late as the past week.

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On his return home his wife gave him first-aid and pulled bits of his nightgown out of the wounds, as the gown was beaten to bits, he said. His wife and sister-in-law dressed the wounds and a physician examined them the next day.

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He said under cross-examination by the defense that he did not tell Dr. J. H. Terrell, the examining physician, M. C. Kelly, Tom Wiley, Ode Holcomb, D. G. Pruitt or J. O. White that he did not know who whipped him. He did not tell Pruitt that the men were without robes or hood, he said.

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The defense opened its case with an effort to prove that Singleton told a number of witnesses that he did not know who whipped him. M. C. Kelly was the first on the stand for the defense, stating that he talked with Singleton on June 6 and that Singleton said that he "could not personate anyone." Defense counsel asked Kelly what Singleton meant by "personate," but Judge Sutton sustained objection by the defense.

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Ode Holcomb testified that he asked Singleton who flogged him and that the farmer replied "the Ku Klux I reckon." Singleton told him that he believed that J. T. Ansley was at the flogging because the floggers accused him of selling whisky to Ansley's minor child, Holcomb said. Holcomb admitted that he is the father-in-law of Bart Lowry, a defendant. He said that the man Ansley is "no more of a Ku Klux than I am." Asked how he knew this, he said that Ansley and he had discussed the organization and Ansley told him he was not a member. He denied that he himself belonged to the K. K. K.

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Denies Part in Whipping.

Acree claimed that he had nothing at all to do with the whipping, that he knew nothing about Singleton's character, though he admitted that he had heard rumors about the man. "But I didn't care anything about Singleton's character," he asserted.

Wiley took the stand next, stating that his acquaintance with Singleton had been limited, and that he had nothing against Singleton. "I never had a conversation with Singleton until a week ago Wednesday," he said. "I know absolutely nothing about this case. Any man in the county who knows me knows that I would not be guilty of such a crime." He supported Acree's story of the egg candling.

Aderholdt began with the statement, "I am innocent of the crime charged against me. I was not present at any flogging. I have never been angry enough at anyone to make going to flog anyone. I wouldn't take him to my church door, because I have more respect for my church. I never told anyone they had to go to church. I realize that the laws of our country are not intended to make anybody go to church. I might beg a person to attend Sunday school, but I never have told anybody to do so. I have never owned or carried a pistol. I have no use for one.

"If Singleton ever rode in my car, he stole it, for I have never hauled him anywhere, and nobody else drives my machine. In fact, I did not know Bart Singleton until he was pointed out to me in court.

Was at Home.

"I have a wife and two little girls. I was at home with them on the night of March 10 and on every other night. I make no excuse or apologies for that. I have no way of proving this statement unless the court would allow my wife to take the stand. I am 50 years old and have never been accused of crime before. I have tried to live a life above reproach and have never stooped to any dirty work."

Jordan's statement was very short. He merely confirmed testimony of defense witnesses regarding his presence at his father's home on the night of March 10, admitted that he knew Bart Singleton, but denied knowing anything of the crime.

Bart Lowry said that he had known Singleton a long time, but had nothing to do with the whipping. He was home with his wife on the night of March 10. He said that he is 35 years old, and was raised in Stephens county. This is his first experience in court and his first arrest, he said.

The defense rested when Lowry left the stand and rebuttal commenced. In rebuttal the state attempted to put Acree's character in issue, on the ground that the defense had introduced character witnesses into the trial, though none for Acree. C. H. Baldwin, of Morgan county, Acree's original home, was called to the stand, but the defense objected when the state asked a question concerning Acree's character. Judge Sutton sustained the objection.

After 30 minutes of rebuttal evidence the argument began.

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"Worse To Be Member of Mob Than To Be Criminal," Court Tells School Head at Toccoa.

BY BEN COOPER,
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Counsel for Acree immediately filed a formal motion for a new trial and Judge Sutton set the hearing for October 22 at Clarkesville. Meanwhile Acree is at liberty under bond totaling $2,800. An amended petition for a new trial will be filed after the record in the case is completed by Ernest Holt, court stenographer, it was stated.

Mob Rule Scored.

Few spectators were in court when Acree was sentenced by Judge Sutton. "You struck not only at this woman (Mrs. Bowers), but the whole structure of our civilization," Judge Sutton said in passing sentence.

"The rule of might and the strongest is the very reverse of our civilization and society and every lick struck the woman was a blow against that sacred structure and the law. Such methods and tactics must not and will not be allowed in this section or circuit as long as I am an the bench," Judge Sutton pointed out that the law provides a way in which criminals and violators of the law may be punished and this is through the courts at our system of government and an outrage on the law. Men must learn that it is worse in a way to be a

A great deal of credit in the investigation of the floggings is due to Fred Stowe, youthful sheriff of the county, who is believed to have had who became so interested in bringing to justice the perpetrators of the crime that he disqualified himself in the matter of serving jury subpoenas, that duty having to be delegated to Deputy McConnell. High praise of the section is very much was given Sheriff Stowe by court officials, form of mob violence, servers for his energetic and fearless efforts to bring the night riders to which, however, has been ef- Citizens of Toccoa complimented by prompt and Judge Sutton upon his fair and impartial conduct of the cases, and voiced the opinion that as long as Judge Sut-

Georgia.

Ku Klux Klan - 1927 I.

5 MEN FREED IN FLOGGING CASE AT TOCCOA

Quick Verdict Given in Trial of Defendants Charged With Beating Farmer.

ACREE TO RECEIVE SENTENCE TODAY

Elmer Clark Gets Mistrial in Bowers Whipping After Jurymen Fail To Agree.

BY BEN COOPER,
Staff Correspondent.

Toccoa, Ga., July 15.—Reaching a verdict after deliberating less than 30 minutes, the jury in the case of five men charged with taking part in the Bowers flogging will not be placed on trial until the October term of court here, due, it is said, to the fact that the court officials are to open superior court in Gainesville Monday.

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Trial of the Bowers and Singleton flogging cases is believed to have had a healthy effect upon Stephens county, it is said, that crime that is the matter of serving jury subpoe... and the numbers pas... that duty having to be delegated ...they can be brought into court. High praise ...for all three, in the discretion of the ...gation of the floggings is due to Fred Stowe, youthful sheriff of the county, who became so interested in bringing the perpetrators of the ...disqualified himself in ...trial, though none for Acree. C. H. ...luced character witnesses into the ...round that the defense had intro... ...Much ...evidence was given by Deputy Sheriff Stowe by court ob... ...has developed ...servers for his energetic and fearless ...efforts to bring the night riders to ...justice ...A great deal of credit in the investi... ...to Fred ...ful sheriff of the county ...in bringing ...of the ...disqualified himself in ...serving jury subpoe... ...delegated ...matter of ...duty having to be ...High praise ...Sheriff Stowe by court ob... ...

ton has charge of the court. Future floggings will be reduced to a negative number.

Five Acquitted.

Acree, together with Bart Lowry, Mose Jordan, Hendrix Wiley and J. S. Aderholdt, were acquitted Friday night on charges of flogging Bartow Singleton, a farmer, after the jury deliberated for less than half an hour.

Trials of Elmer Clark, Claud Groover, Charley Thomas and T. A. Lowry on charges of flogging Mrs. Bowers will not be called until October, when court reconvenes.

Clark was given a mistrial in the case by a jury on Friday.

SCHOOL PRINCIPAL GUILTY IN FLOGGING FACES NEW CHARGE

Acree, Convicted of Beatin Woman, and Four Others To Be Called Tuesday For Whipping Farmer

TOCCOA, GA., July 9.—(AP)—Wit W. G. Acree, schoolmaster, convicte by a jury of farmers today of assaul and battery in connection with the flogging of Mrs. Ansley Bowers, the state made ready to bring him and four others to trial in another case which has grown out of a series of floggings in this county.

Acree, principal of the Stephens county high school at Eastonelle and leader in Baptist affairs of this section, was tried on a charge of assault with intent to kill Mrs. Bowers and was the first of five indicted in that case to stand trial. Whether the others would be tried at this term of court remained problematical on account of the crowded docket, but Solicitor General McMillan announced that he probably would call Acree and four others next Tuesday on the charge of flogging Bartow Singleton, farmer.

Sentence was not passed on Acree today. He faces other charges of burglary, riot, assault with intent to murder and carrying a pistol in connection with the whipping of Mrs. Bowers and her son, Lloyd. Judge I. H. Sutton said he did not think it proper to pass sentence pending disposition of the other charges.

Conviction of Acree followed a slashing attack on testimony designed to set up an alibi for the schoolmaster who contended he was at the home of a neighbor doctoring a sick cow at the time the floggings occurred. Mrs. Bowers and her son testified they recognized Acree as a member of the masked and robed band which took them from home into the country where the flogging was administered. They said they identified the schoolmaster by his voice and build and Mrs. Bowers asserted that he was the man who held her head between his knees when she was beaten. The reason for the flogging she said was recited to her as "immorality and failure to go to church."

Conviction on the assault and battery charge carries a maximum penalty of $1,000 fine, 12 months on the chain gang, or six months in jail, any combination of the three or all of them. It is a misdemeanor, whereas the schoolmaster was tried on a felony charge.

Those indicted along with Acree in the Bowers case were Claude Groover, automobile dealer of Toccoa; Elmer Clark and Charlie Thomas, railroad employes and T. R. Lowery, furniture factory worker.

Defense attorneys announced that "in all probability," they would seek a motion for a new trial.

The jury received the case shortly after 7 o'clock last night.

In a statement issued after the verdict, Judge B. P. Brown, mayor of Toccoa for the last four years and for 20 years ordinary of Stephens county, said:

"Activity of masked and robed bands which have desecrated the law and taken into their hands the sacred right of the courts to administer the law in Stephens county has been heralded far and wide. The good name of Stephens county and the city of Toccoa have possibly been placed in a light that is unfavorable and on the community there has been placed a stigma as a result of the mob activities of the few.

"An overwhelming per cent of citizens of this community are in favor of the enforcement of the law through the proper channels and for this reason frown on mob activity. The law of the mob is the law of the few; the law of the courts is the law of the majority in Stephens county.

"In an orderly way a jury in Stephens county court today expressed its serious disapproval of the law of the mob. The verdict carries with it the idea as expressed by the jury that Toccoa and Stephens county will not tolerate mob law."

SCHOOLMASTER AWAITS FATE IN FLOGGING TRIAL

Jury Unable to Agree After Several Hours Deliberation and is Locked Up For Night by Judge

PROSECUTOR URGES END OF MOB LAW IN VERDICT

Acree is Accused of Assault With Intent to Kill in Beating of Georgia Woman

TOCCOA, GA., July 8.—(AP)—The superior court jury trying W. G. Acree, principal of the Stephens county high school, on a charge of assault with intent to murder in connection with the flogging here, June 12, of Mrs. Ansley Bowers, was locked up for the night at 10.45 o'clock after deliberating a little more than three hours.

No indication was given as to how the 12 farmers composing the jury stood at the time of their retirement.

They will resume their deliverations at the opening of court tomorrow.

The jury retired at its own request, disappointing a crowd of a hundred or more persons who had remained in the courtroom in hopes of a verdict tonight.

Whether the schoolmaster would be convicted or acquitted of a charge of assault with intent to murder Mrs. Bowers, who with her son, testified that they recognized him as a member of the flogging party, was placed in the hands of the jury, composed entirely of farmers, shortly after seven o'clock.

In charging the jury Judge I. H. Sutton instructed them that if they feel that the evidence fails to warrant a verdict of guilty of assault with intent to murder, which carries a sentence of from 2 to 10 years imprisonment, they could reduce the offense to a misdemeanor, subject to acceptance or rejection by the court as is provided by law.

Judge Sutton charged the jury on the law of reasonable doubt, defined assault with intent to murder and assault and battery, instructed them as to the credibility of witnesses, the issue of the character of the defendant and the right of the jury to accept in whole or in part the unsworn testimony of the defendant, the impeachment of witnesses and identity.

Judge Sutton indicated that unless the jury reached a verdict early he would order them locked up overnight.

The jury listened attentively to the arguments of attorneys that preceded Judge Sutton's charge.

Acree was unmoved by the accusations of prosecution counsel in their pleas to the jury.

The argument of Solicitor General Robert McMillan closed the state's case, and was interrupted for nearly half an hour by a violent thunderstorm. The brilliant lightning that accompanied the storm interrupted power service for a long time plunging the courtroom into darkness.

Pleading for conviction, Solicitor McMillan asked the jury to "remove the blot of mob law from the good name of Stephens county and the state of Georgia."

"It is worthy of note," he declared "that much of the evidence introduced by the defense in its effort to establish an alibi for Acree came from men jointly indicted with him. The state witnesses came here not to acquit themselves of crimes because they were not accused."

Shaking his finger in the faces of Mrs. Bowers and her son, who have been interested spectators since the trial opened Wednesday, Ben Gaylord of defense counsel said "the testimony of this woman and this boy has been impeached according to the law."

Crowds of persons who have jammed the little superior court room to capacity since the trial began, had grown to such proportions today that many were unable to obtain entrance. During the afternoon, the shade of trees on the courthouse lawns sheltered scores who from this vantage point heard the arguments of attorneys, which came plainly through the open windows. Inside the courtroom hundreds sweltered under the heat of a July day.

Just in Passing

BY JAMES A. HOLLOMON

The outstanding feature of the recent convention of southern publishers in Atlanta—and one that pleased me immensely—was the beautiful and deserved tribute paid to my dear old friend and neighbor, Henry H. Cabaniss.

When I joined the staff of The Journal 30 years ago as a cub reporter Mr. Cabaniss, the general manager, became my personal friend.

He was the personal friend of all the boys.

When I became news editor, and then assistant managing editor and managing editor, and then Washington staff correspondent, he remained the same loyal, devoted friend.

No more so than when I was a cub reporter. And certainly no less so.

The boys loved him because of his democracy.

He didn't tolerate the caste system.

So long as a member of the staff remained loyal and true and worthy and able to hold down his assignment he held the same esteem and the same consideration of the general manager, whether he stood at the bottom or at the top of the ladder.

* * * *

The editorial staff was paid off on Saturdays in those old days.

Sometimes, in the inviting name of hearts and spades, Mr. Cabaniss and three or four of us would gather together on Saturday afternoons, after the last edition had gone to press, and play a little "ten cent limit" just for diversion, and to help drive the burdensome cares of a strenuous week away.

It was fun—but mostly for him!

No one could beat him in the long run.

Anyway, when the diversion was over, along about the cool of the evening, he would earnestly and sincerely urge each of us, as we dispersed, to attend services at the First Baptist church the next day.

We generally obeyed!

Being of that faith, having been plunged in the Chowan river, in North Carolina, before I was old enough to swim, it was natural and entirely orthodox that I should do so.

Mr. Cabaniss, in his conventional black Prince Albert, would generally be passing around the silver plate about the time I arrived.

As I always sought a seat in the rear of the auditorium, he would invariably find me, and always gave me a merry, devilish little wink as I dropped in one of the few dimes I had remaining after meeting the boarding-house demands.

On one occasion, in those good old days, Dr. Landrum—blessed soul, now with his God—in his usual jovial mood, declared in a banquet address that he had made Henry Cabaniss one of his deacons "because the rowdy element of his flock demanded recognition."

* * * *

But, levity aside—

Henry H. Cabaniss was in those days, and is today, just a big man's man—a whole-souled, hearty, companionable human being, sweet, smart, alert, tolerant, the soul of honor, and as pure and as clean a Christian gentleman, and as free from sham, as any man it has been my privilege to know in many years of experience with men of every kind and class and position and wealth.

* * * *

He is now resting in the refreshing shades of a beautiful afternoon.

The sun is yet far above the hills but its glow goldens the entire western horizon.

In the broad expanse of blue, reaching back to the east, there is not a fleck.

What a picture!

May it be many years yet before the sun shall drop from view—

Before darkness shall shroud the happy old homestead!

* * * *

The conviction of a Toccoa educational, religious and civic leader on the charge of being a member of a band of hooded barbarians who mercilessly flogged a defenseless woman and her innocent but protesting son, accentuates the necessity for enacting the pending bill which would prohibit, under severe penalty, the members of any secret order from wearing face masks in any public place—

Which means **anywhere** beyond the walls of a lodge room.

Ku Klux Klan - 1927 II.

What a cowardly crime of inquisition! The Toccoa affair!

And to think that it should have been committed by one looked upon as a moral leader—one whom parents would have naturally wished their boys to emulate.

Defying law, defying common decency, defying the judiciary system, defying government.

A church leader, a teacher of children!

O, the double shame of it!

General Forrest, the head of the Ku Klux Klan in Georgia, has said he will expel any member of that order who is found guilty of flogging.

But isn't it true that Professor Acree was the Cyclops (President) of his local klan at the times of all the Toccoa floggings?

Isn't it also true that General Forrest said he had thoroughly investigated and had found that no member of that order had participated in the Toccoa flogging?

Isn't it also true that the "cards" of the guilty men were quietly taken up after the flogging, when the law began a relentless battle for its own vindication?

And that pages were even extracted from the records of Acree's lodge?

Didn't General Forrest know then? Doesn't he know now?

Is it not true that every man sent to the penitentiary from Coffee county for participating in a lynching mob was a member of the klan?

* * *

I am not a klansman, but I have many warm personal friends who are.

They joined because they believed with all their hearts that the ritual embodied high and worthy ideals.

They denounce hoodlumism. They denounce "night riding." They denounce terrorism.

The rank and file of the members of the klan, I am sure, rejoice today that the perpetrators of the Toccoa and other similar outrages are coming to surface, despite the white hoods that covered their faces.

Then why did not the state headquarters of that order assist the law in its vindication at Toccoa, instead of obstructing it by attempting to scent the trail away from the Stephens county klan?

* * * *

Take the sheets from off the faces of any person, klansman or whoever it may be!

The mask in public is the insignia of the most reprehensible degree of cowardice.

The most contemptible assassin is the one who strikes from ambush—who shoots his victim from cover.

Uncover every man!

And if there must be a fight let it be in the open and on the square!

RECORD
COLUMBIA, S. C.
JUL 17 1927

The Pious Floggers.

Bartow Singleton, a farmer, testifying in the Toccoa, Georgia, flogging cases, said that he was taken to a cemetery at Liberty Hill, near Toccoa, and flogged three times, for the following reasons:

(1). Because he was charged with being a bootlegger and having sold liquor to a minor, which he denied.

(2). Because he "wasn't talking right."

(3). Because he didn't attend "meeting," and did not send his boy to Sunday-school.

The robed and hooded Protestant 100 per cent. Americans who administered this discipline belong to the class that raves and foams at the mouth at mention of the Pope of Rome, the Jews and Al Smith. But we have not heard of the Pope or any of his emissaries leading a masked mob out to lynch or flog helpless men, women and children during the past several hundred years. There are moments, we confess, when we are not so ding-busted proud of our 100 per cent. Nordic and Protestant culture. There is no law that we know of to compel a man to send his kids to Sunday school if he doesn't want to.

SENTINEL
WINSTON-SALEM, N. C.

JUL 16 1927

Somebody Is Guilty

Reports emitting from Georgia and Alabama within recent weeks prove that there is unquestionably a longing to return to the old idea of the rule of the mighty. It is not necessary to make a study of the situation to conclude there are many who would take the law in their hands and administer it according to the dictates of their passion.

The jury in the case against Elmer Clark, charged with assault with intent to kill in connection with the flogging of Mrs. Ansley Bowers, of Toccoa, Georgia, several weeks ago, will probably have returned a verdict by the time this goes into print. Whether he is convicted or not and whether the five additional men charged with the flogging are convicted or not does not prove the flogging did not take place.

Turning to Alabama it can be seen in a minute several floggings have been committed. Somebody is doing this work. Possibly the correct parties have not been apprehended as yet, but there are guilty parties. And the guilty parties should be dealt with severely when haled into court and convicted.

The South generally has been turning its back on such acts for the past several years. North Carolina has led the field in this particular. Not since Judge Sinclair sentenced several persons to the State Prison for a heinous crime has this State been open to criticism. Other states would do well to follow in the footsteps of North Carolina.

Georgia.

Statesville, N.C.
JUL 1927

GEORGIA IMPROVING.

Georgia people apparently are tired of cowardly assaults by robed and masked figures in that State.

The conviction of the man Acree, principal of a high school and teacher in a Sunday School, of assault and battery in connection with the flogging of a woman and her son, ought to prove an incentive to that element determined to break up such practices. The conviction of this man at least gives the law-abiding element an opportunity to rear its head and show the world that everybody in Georgia does not belong to that class which is too cowardly to do its dastardly work except behind a sheet.

However, the flogging was not done by one man. The courts still have the important task of determining and punishing others. Acree sought to establish an alibi but when he elected to make a statement in preference to testifying under oath (and the Georgia law allows either) he weakened his case. The jury must have felt that the statements of a man are not to be carefully noted when the man prefers to merely make a statement in preference to testifying under oath. The man who tells the truth, The Statesville Daily says, doesn't mind testifying on a "stack of Bibles." That's the truth, too.

"The school man was one of a party of five indicted for the whipping," says The News and Observer, "Four of them are yet to be tried. It is probable that at least some of the others, maybe all, will be convicted. Acree could not have done the flogging alone.

"In him the crime was peculiarly obnoxious. Here was a man who, if anyone ought, should have personified good citizenship. Instead, he was all that good citizenship ought not to have been. The penalty might well take into consideration this fact in justification of greater severity.

"Every conviction of this sort is a matter for public rejoicing. It is a fine thing for Georgia that the tide has turned against this epidemic of outlawry. It is no justification that 'good men' thought that they were promoting law and order. The law is jealous. There must be no moral authority above it. Good men recognize this.

"Georgia is vindicating her honor."

GREENSBORO
N. C.

ISSUE OF
JUL 6 1927

IN GEORGIA, AND ALABAMA.

A Georgia judge addresses strong words to a Stephens county grand jury and five men are indicted for flogging. Eleven men have been arrested in Stephens for flogging and nobody knows how many more ought to be arrested. There are plenty of stories of midnight bands, hooded and unhooded (but generally hooded), which have held such supremacy that victims have been afraid to report the floggings. Still, 11 arrests and five indictments thus far, with the probability of more to come, looks like progress of a sort. It will look like better progress when it is discovered whether these are the right men and whether they can be convicted. Arrests and indictments for flogging in Georgia do not always mean convictions and

punishments.

But no sooner had that news come up out of the south than Alabama wheels into line. This time a 19-year-old white boy, Jeff Calloway, who admitted to having "a small amount of whisky in his pocket" and a drink under his belt (terribly damaging evidence in case anything is ever done about this affair), is picked up in daylight near Oneonta by representatives of a cavalcade of 18 automobiles filled with masked men.

The boy stated he was standing in front of the church, which is about five miles from Oneonta, when the cars filled with grotesque figures filed up the road. He stood watching as a man in the front car leaned over and asked a bystander a question. Then a number of men leaped from the leading machines, rushed up and grabbed him.

He was thrown roughly into one of the cars, kicked in the face and told, with an oath, to "keep his mouth shut." At an isolated spot he was dragged out and beaten. Members of the mob used sticks, straps and any available weapon in reach, it was stated. Afterward they left him lying, semi-conscious.

Nobody has said why he was beaten. He himself did not say anything for several days, knowing that hooded bands sometimes return. "We are going to stop these outrages by meeting force with force," one official said, and at Oneonta the feeling against the floggers is said to be "intense."

An outsider might wonder if it is intense enough to induce the United States senator from Alabama, J. Thomas Heflin, to pause for a moment in his anti-Roman Catholic speaking campaign, which appears to be under the auspices of the Ku Klux klan, and to go home to lend his aid in uncovering masked and terrorism.

Anti-Flogging Bill Is Introduced In Ga. Senate

ATLANTA, GA., (P. N. S.)—Long prison terms for members of masked bands found guilty of flogging persons are provided in a bill introduced in the Georgia Senate last week.

A section of the bill would make it unlawful for any person to appear masked on public grounds, or buildings, or private property without consent.

TIMES
CUMBERLAND, MD.

JUL 20 1927

SOME HOPE FOR GEORGIA

It seems the sane and decent people in the state of Georgia are to have their day in court and the courts and juries are not all blinded or terrorized by the masked and hooded crowds that have taken it upon themselves to run the government and dicipline the people, their way, in defiance of law and civilized order. W. G. Acree, of Toccoa, Georgia, the school superintendent, who, at the head of a masked and robed gang, flogged a woman and her son, after conviction by a Georgia jury of assault and battery, has been sentenced, by a Georgia judge, to serve a year on a chain gang and pay a fine of $100. It will be remembered this Acree is the school superintendent who submitted an unsworn statement to the court and jury to the effect that he could not have been present at the flogging because at the time he was several miles away doctoring a sick cow for another member of the robe and hood tribe. The statement was supported by five of Acree's pals but the alibi did not work. The woman and her son had positively identified Acree and the jury and court treated the story of the school superintendent turning cow doctor at night with the contempt the story deserved.

Acree was admitted to bail pending an appeal of his case. Whether he eventually serves on the chain gang or not, the fact that a jury and a judge in that robe and hood obsessed state had the judgment necessary to disregard his impossible cow doctor story and the courage to properly follow their judgment is a happy augury that the real citizenry of Georgia has awakened to a sense of public duty and decency. It will be interesting now to see if some of the robe and hood tribe, in their indignation and pursuit of righteousness, with whips and clubs, will now attempt to flog the judge and jurors. It is a safe bet they will not, although the act would be less dastardly than flogging the woman and her boy.

It will be interesting too, to see whether Acree is eventually returned to the work of teaching and guiding the children of Georgia or whether he is advised to seek a job doctoring cows. That advice might be hard on the cows and their owners but not as unreasonable as to permit a person of this type to have anything to do with instructing children. Unless service on the chain gang and consequent reflections brings this fellow to a sense of shame it would be better to let him seek a job tending some of the razor-back hogs of Georgia. He could not spoil this type of swine and the companionship should be very congenial.

Saturday night, July 23rd, between the hours of eleven and twelve o'clock, the editor of The Augusta News was visited by three members of the Ku Klux Klan. They were unmasked, they did not wear their hoods nor long white robes, nor did they burn the fiery cross. They were not mounted on horses, with glittering swords hanging to their sides, as the Klan of reconstruction days when their appearance was a signal for trouble.

They came into our office, asked who were the editors of The Augusta News and stated that they would like to see them. Quickly they were informed that they were speaking to the editor of "The News," and that he alone was owner and publisher of the same. After they were convinced that they were speaking to the right person and there were no others to be seen, the spokesman for the trio asked whether I had any of the back issues of "The News" on hand; if so, they would like to buy a dozen copies. He stated that he did not know what issue they wanted, but it was the one that had Governor Hardman's speech against the Ku Klux Klan in it. While I was getting the papers, they decided among themselves to take only five copies. We sold them the copies desired, as we do to all customers, five cents straight. The spokesman paid for the papers, and said that they contained the information he wanted. He then took from his inside coat pocket a card, and handed it to me. I looked at the card, but did not understand everything that was on it. His name and address was all that I could understand. He took the card back and said: "You have never seen anything like this before." He told me what the card meant and that it was given to him from one of the orders of the **Ku Klux Klan** of which he is a member. He also named the church of which he is a member. He stated that he was reared in Augusta and had lived here all of his life, and that they did not come down to the office of The Augusta News to start any trouble, but were here on a peaceful mission. I then asked them to have a seat. Two of the young men sat down, while the spokesman remained standing, who asked several questions and requested that I do likewise. So we both propounded questions to each other for discussion.

"Why do Negroes hate the Ku Klux Klan, since the Klan is not after them?" was the first question put to me. My reply was: "No Negro who knew the black record of the original Klan could have a friendly attitude toward the present Klan, which is said to be the Klan of **yesterday, today and forever.**"

He frankly admitted that the Klan of reconstruction days had a very dark record, one which would be hard to forget. He said that the modern Klan does not function along the same line as the Klan of reconstruction days, therefore it should not be charged with the acts of the old organization. The spokesman said the Klan of reconstruction days was a necessity at that time, and as soon as its purpose was accomplished the organization was disbanded. He turned to me and asked: "What do you think would have happened had the governments of the Southern states been turned over to the carpetbaggers and the Negroes who were **ignorant, penniless** and knew nothing about governments?" I was equally as frank as he was. Though I could not endorse the Ku Klux Klan Klan, but I admitted that it would not have been the best thing to do to have turned the governments over into the hands of these people. We discussed **social equality, white supremacy, amalgamation of the races, one hundred per cent Americanism,** the Klan as a religious and political organization and why it was revived. Our discussion on these subjects will be published in next week's issue of The News.

BROOKLYN
STANDARD UNION

JUL 18 1927

Lynching Replaced By Flogging in Southern States

Twenty Cases of New Mob Violence Recalled After Acree Conviction.

(By United Press.)

ATLANTA, Ga., July 18.—Thirteen new flogging cases in Alabama and two in Florida, added to five already revealed in Georgia, indicate an increase in this method of "reform" in the South.

Lynching of negroes has taken a back seat while hooded and unhooded bands choose white victims from home and the street and whip them.

Success in controlling the flogging wave has not been attained as yet. Most of the cases, particularly those in Alabama, have just come to light, and county solicitors are conducting investigations.

Only one conviction has been obtained so far. W. G. Acree, former principal of the Eastonollee, Ga., High School, has been sentenced to twelve months on the chain gang and fined $100 for participating in the flogging of Mrs. Ansley Bowers and her 15-year-old son, Lloyd, at Toccoa a month ago.

A mistrial resulted in the case of Elmer Clark, indicted with Acree. Three other men, indicted with Acree and Clark, remain to be tried.

Five men charged with flogging Bart Singleton, a farmer, near Toccoa, three months ago, were acquitted last week. No bills were returned against another group for the alleged flogging of Mrs. Martha Finley and Miss Elsie Williams in Stephens County.

Georgia has no specific anti-flogging legislation. Gov. L. G. Hardman said to-day that he did not expect to promote any and had heard of no legislator who intended sponsoring a bill.

The only way Georgia solicitors can prosecute floggers is to have them indicted for assault and battery, assault with intent to murder, or rioting, but in the five Toccoa flogging cases this proved practically futile. Acree, the only man convicted, was indicted for assault with intent to murder, but the jury found him guilty of assault and battery.

Ku Klux Klan - 1927

Georgia.

Atlanta, Ga., Georgian
SEP 8 1927

How About It, Jackson County?

THE flogging of two negroes in Jackson County a few days ago by a band of masked men was an outrage upon law, decency and common sense.

The victims, after having been carried several miles into the country by the mob that seized them, were beaten into practical insensibility with heavy leathern straps, as well as mauled unmercifully with heavy revolver butts.

It was a shame and disgrace not only upon the County of Jackson, but upon the State of Georgia—and, for that matter, upon the South and the nation!

This is not the first affair of the kind in Georgia to be thus deplored; but it so happens that this should furnish a conspicuous opportunity for reply to the question which already has assumed national importance:

"WHAT WILL JACKSON COUNTY DO ABOUT IT?"

Jackson County is a typical Georgia county; it may be classed neither as rural nor urban. It is neither a "remote" county nor a "big-city" county. It is as fairly an average Georgia county as one might select.

It happens to be the home of the present Governor of Georgia—Dr. L. G. Hardman. It happens also to be the home of the Governor's most active and aggressive opponent, both for and in the Governorship—Hon. John N. Holder.

During the campaign in which these two gentlemen were pitted against one another Jackson County was very much in the limelight in Georgia.

Here, then, is a fine opportunity for a "show-down" as to just what Georgia WILL do about these floggings.

Upon Jackson County's answer to this challenge will depend much of the good name and repute of this state abroad in the future!

ATLANTA
GEORGIA SEP 8 1927

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Lee, the first of four men indicted in the case to be tried, was found guilty in superior court here on August 17 and sentenced to from three to five years' imprisonment.

Judge Graham, who presided at the trial, heard Lee's motion for a new hearing at McRae Saturday and announced his decision in his chambers here today, the reports received here said.

Sheriff W. L. Thigpen, of Treutlen county; Henry McLendon and Lee's son, Joe, are to be tried here in February on similar charges.

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FREE THIRTEEN IN FLOGGING

Special to The Georgian.

CLARKESVILLE, Ga., Aug. 10.—No bills were returned by the Habersham grand jury today, following an exhaustive probe in flogging cases involving 13 men. The jury, likewise, refused to return indictments against the suspects on charges of carrying pistols and assault and battery.

Those involved in the investigation were: Callaway, Luther, Knox and Bill Segars, Oscar Tankersley, Luther Davison, Wesley and Dewey Williams, Carl Nix, Carl Williams, Jarrett Webster, John Evans and John Darnell.

It was alleged the men entered the home of Mandy Pitts at Baldwin and flogged two of the Pitts girls and two boys.

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WILL TESTIFY BEFORE CRENSHAW GRAND JURY

Willie Stallings and Elmer Hill Arrested on Flogging Charge

James Esdale, grand dragon of the Ku Klux Klan of Alabama, with headquarters in Birmingham; Cecil Davis, of Birmingham; Louis McAdory, clerk of the board of revenue of Jefferson county, Birmingham; George H Thigpen, state superintendent of insurance Montgomery, and Ira B. Thompson, Luverne, are among the between 175 and 200 witnesses who have been subpoenaed to appear as witnesses before the special term of the Crenshaw county grand jury which convenes at Luverne, Monday, it was announced by Attorney General Charlie C. McCall, Friday night.

The special term of the grand jury was convened on the order of Circuit Judge A. E. Gamble, for the purpose of investigating the more than 20 floggings of citizens which the attorney general declares have taken place in Crenshaw county within the past 8 months, and which he has already personally investigated. Judge Gambles order was issued at the urgent request of Attorney General McCall and Governor Bibb Graves

of The attorney general stated that warrants are also out for Dewey Bolling, Rufus Welsh and Cue Bozeman, but that officers have been unable to locate them. It is presumed they have fled the county of Crenshaw and possibly the state of Alabama.

Attorney General McCall and his assistant, John J. Haynes, who were in Luverne attorney, whom Attorney Gen- eral McCall has engaged counsel for the

sion of the grand jury and the investigation to be made by that body. in Crenshaw county Thursday night the attorney general, in answer to a ago and throughout the forenoon, Friday, question stated Friday evening he re- be- special who were arrested several days ago in the same connection, are also be- ing held at the Montgomery jail. returned to Montgomery, late Friday gards as "thoroughly satisfactory."

Ku Klux Klan - 1927

Georgia.

Atlanta, Ga., Georgian

SEP 8 1927

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In all, 91 separate matters in connection with the floggings, are to be presented to the grand jury, the attorney general said Friday evening. In their presentation, he will be assisted by Circuit Solicitor Calvin Poole Assistant Attorney General John J. Haynes, and F. P. Bricken, prominent Luverne attorney, whom Attorney General McCall has engaged special counsel for the

The attorney general stated that warrants are also out for Dewey Bolling, Rufus Welsh and Cue Bozeman, but that officers have been unable to locate them. It is presumed they have fled the county of Crenshaw and posted to Alabama.

Attorney General McCall and his assistant, John J. Haynes, who were in Crenshaw county Thursday night the attorney general, in answer to a and throughout the forenoon, Friday, question stated Friday evening he returned to Montgomery, late Friday

The total of arrests growing out of the floggings in Crenshaw, as to the forthcoming meeting at Luverne of the special session of the grand jury and the investigation by Attorney General McCall and his assistant, Haynes, who were vestigation to be made by that body. In Crenshaw county Thursday night the attorney general, in answer to a and throughout the forenoon, Friday, question stated Friday evening he returned to Montgomery, late Friday gards as "thoroughly satisfactory."

In all, 91 separate matters in connection with the floggings, are to be presented to the grand jury, the attorney general said Friday evening. In their presentation, he will be assisted by Circuit Solicitor Calvin Poole Assistant Attorney General John J. Haynes, and F. P. Bricken, prominent Luverne attorney, whom Attorney General McCall has engaged special counsel for the

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Death Farm Probe Witnesses Reveal Floggings, Murder

County Authorities Draw Net Tighter in Investigating Bootleg Ring and Negro Slaying.

TROLLINGER UNDER CHARGE OF MURDER

Witnesses Grilled by Solicitor Tell of Sinister Activities and Rum Feuds.

Grim pictures of brutal flogging, sordid bootlegging transactions in the dead of night and bitter feuds resulting in the death of one white man, on the Simpson road "death farm," grew Saturday under the questioning of several witnesses rounded up by county police following the finding Thursday of a negro's body in a shallow grave on the farm.

In the air of secrecy and reluctance surrounding the information wrested from the witnesses, county authorities are slowly piecing together the sinister purpose of the farm, thickly wooded and lonely, despite the fact that it is only two miles from the heart of Atlanta.

In the investigation which follows the finding of the negro's body on the farm which is owned by L. B. Fuller, of 1100 Simpson road, the officers Saturday were engaged in grilling Will Burks, a negro who was employed at the farm, Joseph Andrews, 21, arrested Friday in connection with his alleged violation of the prohibition law in the vicinity of the "death farm," Grady Royalson, a negro who lives in one of the cabins on the Fuller farm, and several other witnesses who are said to know of activities about the farm.

An air of secrecy hovers over the testimony of these witnesses and authorities decline to divulge any of their clues at "the present time," but predict startling disclosures when the probe is completed.

In conjunction with the so-called "murder farm," investigation, the solicitor's staff and the county police are "working" on a probe into the death on Sunday afternoon, October 23, of Millard T. Allen, of a Simpson road address. The two cases are said to be closely allied. The Allen investigation was reopened Friday afternoon after information from an anonymous source was received concerning the murder of negroes and their secret burial on the Fuller farm.

Allen Is Murdered.

Allen was shot and instantly killed by Thomas Trollinger, of 1100 Simpson road, tenant on the Fuller farm. At a preliminary hearing on a warrant charging him with Allen's murder, Trollinger was exonerated and the warrant dismissed following the testimony of witnesses that he fired in self-defense.

Less than a week following Trollinger was again in the hands of the law. He was implicated by L. B. Fuller, owner of the farm, in a statement said to have been made Friday afternoon to Assistant Solicitor Hudson concerning the death of the negroes.

Fuller, Trollinger and Burks, a negro, were in Fulton tower Thursday night following the discovery of the negro's body. All three were charged with murder in connection with the investigation. Fuller and Burks were brought to the county jail and Trollinger, after learning that he was wanted by the officers in connection with the case, surrendered at the tower with his attorney, Len B. Guillebeau.

The farm owner, after being questioned Friday afternoon at the solicitor's office is alleged to have made a lengthy statement in connection with the Allen case and the farm mystery. He was released immediately following and while there was no definite information forthcoming from the authorities concerning his release or the statement in which Trollinger was said to have been named, it was apparent that he was allowed his liberty on assurances that he would assist in finding witnesses in the case.

Fuller Offers Aid.

It is known that Fuller voluntarily came to the offices of the solicitor and also the county police Saturday afternoon and was aiding them with their probe. Authorities talked at length with them and he accompanied them to various sections of the city in connection with the case.

Trollinger and the negro, Burks, are being held without bond and permission has been denied to all visitors with the exception of their respective attorneys. A formal charge of murder was docketed against Trollinger Saturday morning following the swearing out by Lieutenant J. M. Carroll, of the county police force, of a warrant.

DEATH FARM MURDER BARED BY WITNESS

The warrant was served Saturday morning in a dramatic climax to a hearing on a petition for a writ of habeas corpus by which Attorney Guillebeau sought to force Trollinger's release. This is the first legal writ sworn out in the investigation. Attorney Guillebeau was in the midst of his argument to Judge Virlyn B. Moore, who presided at the hearing, when Lieutenant Carroll appeared with the warrant and the hearing terminated abruptly.

The lawyer contended that Trollinger was being held without a warrant and had been held without legal authority for more than 48 hours. He contended that the authorities had had ample time to prepare a definite accusation against his client but had not done so because of a "scheme" to get the case before the grand jury.

Preliminary hearing on this murder warrant will be held at 10 o'clock Monday morning before Judge Luther Z. Rosser in municipal court before whom Lieutenant Carroll swore out the accusation. The date for hearing was set at the request of Attorney Guillebeau.

Grand Jury Hearing.

According to information, the Fulton county grand jury will hold a lengthy session Monday morning after the jurors have been sworn in for service during the next term. The solicitor and county officers at this time are expected to present the mass of evidence they have gathered in the cases before the body at this time.

At the hearing on the habeas corpus petition, Assistant Solicitor Hudson told Judge Moore that the investigation was leading into many fields and involved dozens of witnesses. He said that witnesses to the shooting of Allen had "disappeared" and that he and the county officers had considerable work to do in making their investigation "air tight."

John Peck, a negro, questioned Saturday is said to have told the officers that he had been severely beaten by Millard Allen, the victim of Trollinger's pistol. Peck said three other negroes had been blackjacked and slugged, the attacks occurring in the cornfield where the body of the negro identified as that of Owen Carruthers, was found.

A vigil at the farm is being kept by the police in an effort to round up witnesses who are known to have frequented the farm. Up until a late hour Saturday night the officers were scouring the section for missing witnesses while others were being questioned at police headquarters and at the county jail.

No definite statement was forthcoming from the officials as to when they expected to resume their search for bodies of the other negroes who, according to their information, are buried at the "death farm."

The authorities are apparently devoting their attention to getting their evidence in shape for the grand jury investigation before resuming the search.

In addition to Lieutenant J. M. Carroll, the following county officers are working on the two cases: Albert Stovall, B. L. Hughes, Jack Carroll, E. W. Wilson and Carroll Cates.

Atlanta, Ga. JOI
SEP 7 1927

ATLANTA, GA. CONSTITUTION

A JACKSON COUNTY DISGRACE.

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Carried a distance of several miles from their home in automobiles the masked mob made them disrobe and then they were brutally beaten with a heavy leather thong.

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The sheriff of Jackson county reports that five of the masked men were identified by the victims and that warrants have been issued and arrests will shortly be made.

As the regular term of the Jackson superior court does not meet until February, more than five months hence, a special term should be called, so that the thugs may be brought to swift justice.

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MACON, GA., News.
SEP 3 1927

Negroes Claim Mob Beat Them

JEFFERSON, Ga., Sept. 3. (AP)—Local authorities are investigating the story of Will Murray, aged negro tenant farmer, and his 17-year-old son, that they were attacked in their home last night by eight masked men, beaten into submission with pistol butts and taken in automobiles several miles into the country where they were flogged with leather straps.

Murray said his assailants told him while applying the lash that he was being punished because his wife had arranged trysting places for white boys and girls, but he said he believed the real reason was the fact that he recently had moved from one farm to another in the neighborhood.

His wife also was beaten by the masked men at the house, he said, but was not taken with them to be whipped. The father and son were brought here for treatment after having been left on the highway by the floggers and told to make their way home as best they could. They were said by physicians to have been more severely injured by the beating on their heads with pistol butts than by the floggings.

Was Driven From

KILGO CHARGES THREATS DROVE HIM

For Flogging Expose, Georgia

FROM TOCCOA

He Says

(By Leased Wire to The Constitution.)

Chicago, November 23.—Threatened by friends of Ku Klux Klan floggers whose arrest he had obtained, William M. Kilgo, 51, came to Chicago a few weeks ago from Toccoa, Ga., where he had been engaged in the dry-goods business, and settled down to a menial job in a State street department store.

Mr. Kilgo says he is responsible for the arrest of ten floggers in the state last summer and that he obtained the evidence and warrants with the assistance of only one other man.

"I begged local officials to move in the matter, but they were afraid of the klan. Five men in Stephens county out of six are said to be members. I had once been a member of the klan myself and know most of the men. When one of my neighbors, a good [illegible] whom there had been some unfounded gossip, was beaten into a state of unconsciousness by these 'defenders of law and order,' I determined to seek determining evidence and investigate several flagrant cases of flogging around about Toccoa. Five of the floggers had been recognized, largely by their voices. All the victims named the same men. One had looked squarely into the face of W. G. Acre, later tried, convicted and sentenced to twelve months. Acre had removed his hood to mask the victim so he couldn't see where he was being taken. One man, who had taken a flogged woman, left on the road seven miles from town, for medical treatment was so threatened by his fellow klansmen that he was driven mad and is now in the insane asylum at Milledgeville, Ga."

Mr. Kilgo said that friends of his and friends even of the victims discouraged him in trying to run down the floggers by saying that no klansman (and the juries would no doubt be made up largely of them) would ever convict a member. "That was not so, however," said Mr. Kilgo. "On the juries trying some of the men there were Ku Klux Klansmen and verdicts were returned."

BUSINESS FAILED, TOCCOA REPORTS.

Toccoa, Ga., November 23.—(Special.)—Toccoa citizens tonight discounted statements attributed to W. L. Kilgo, formerly of Toccoa and Atlanta, that he had left this city because his life was threatened by friends of klansmen whom he helped prosecute on flogging charges several months ago.

Kilgo left Toccoa several weeks ago when his mercantile business failed with a loss of several thousand dollars. None of his family is in Toccoa now. The business failure and not klan threats is believed here to be the cause of his departure.

Ku Klux Klan- 1927 I. Georgia

FLOGGED WITHOUT CAUSE

Jackson, the home county of the Governor of Georgia, has had its escutcheon blackened by the cowardly flogging of a colored man and his son. It is reputed that they are hard working and respectful. Because they refused to leave their home when told to do so, the masked mob visited them, beat the father over head with the butt of a pistol, placed them in an automobile and carried them seven miles away where they were forced to disrobe and were flogged. They were brutally beaten over the head with the stocks of revolvers. Speaking about civilization, this mob type is surely not a part of it.

Five of the mobbers were identified by the victims and may be arrested. In a strong demand for immediate action, The Atlanta Constitution states editorially:

As the regular term of the Jackson superior court does not meet until February, more than five months hence, a special term should be called, so that the thugs may be brought to swift justice.

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SEVENTY FLOGGING CASES UNDER PROBE SAYS PROSECUTOR

Full Protection Pledged by Attorney General; State Will Train Fire on Witness Intimidators

'GOING TO END BUSINESS FOR ALL TIME' HE SAYS

Office Flooded With Stories of Outrages; Will Hold Reports in Confidence

A call to all persons in Alabama who have been terrorized or lashed by mobs to report confidentially in his office, giving full details was issued by Attorney General Charlie C. McCall, who declared that the situation in Alabama was serious, upon his return last night from Jefferson county where he aided in the grand jury flogging probe.

Attorney General McCall declared that more than seventy flogging cases, all of which happened within the past 18 months and a large number of which occured this year, were under investigation by his office.

Each day brings new reports of outrages from persons who in the past have been silenced by fear, he declared. Attorney McCall gave assurance that all information will be treated as confidential and that the full protection of the law will be given citizens against any threats that might be made now or hereafter.

"We are going to put an end to this business in Alabama once and for all time," he said.

"I have under investigation some seventy-odd flogging cases, a large number of which are alleged to have been committed by persons wearing masks or by persons who were masked and robed. Practically all of the floggings were committed within the last 18 months and many were committed this year.

"The number of such cases being reported to my office is increasing.

"In the course of investigation I find repeated efforts being made to intimidate and browbeat or threaten parties who are divulging information.

"A large number of persons doing this are masked so as to attempt to prevent identification. I want to serve notice through the press that I expect to do my level best to send to the penitentiary every party whom I am able to identify as guilty of intimidating and threatening persons and witnesses who want to tell the truth.

"We are not going to stand for this continued effort to obstruct justice and I want to say hat anyone who wants to tell me anything of his troubles in this regard, or about being whipped or kidnaped, or beaten, may do so freely and with assurance they will be adequately protected.

"The situation is such that I cannot disclose publicly the many cases that have been brought to my attention. Every effort will be put forth to obtain adequate evidence on which to indict and convict the guilty parties and with the grand juries and juries cooperating I have no fear of the result.

"What I have said relates to whippings and kidnapings in several counties, which, at a more opportune time, I hope to present to the grand juries after I have finished in Jefferson county."

All communications should be addressed to Charlie C. McCall, attorney general, state capitol, Montgomery, Ala., and marked "personal and confidential."

GANG TERM GIVEN IN FLOGGING CASE

Soperton, Ga., August 18.—(AP)—Raymond Lee, convicted in superior court here yesterday of assault with intent to murder H. M. Flanders, editor of the Soperton News, who was whipped by a band of men last February, was sentenced to from three to five years in the penitentiary today.

Just before sentence was pronounced Lee told Judge Lescol Graham "they have convicted the wrong man."

Motion for a new trial was entered by Lee's attorneys shortly after sentence had been passed. Judge Graham set September 17 as the date for a hearing on the motion. The hearing will be at McRae, Ga. Bond was fixed at $3,000 pending result of the motion.

Raymond Lee's wife was in the courtroom when sentence was pronounced, but received the word of sentence without great outward show.

Sheriff W. L. Thigpen, of Treutlen county; Henry McLendon and Joe Lee, jointly indicted with Raymond Lee in connection with the affair, will be tried at the next term of court, which is next February, unless a special term should be called.

Lee was identified by the editor on the stand as a member of the band who took him from his automobile February 25 and beat him into unconsciousness. The whipping was administered, the editor said he was told, because of articles in his paper denouncing lawlessness in the Soperton vicinity.

The verdict was returned Wednesday night after the jury had deliberated two hours.

Flogged By Masked Mob

Two Negroes Whipped In Jefferson County

TAKEN FROM THEIR BEDS

Father And Son Beaten With Leather Straps and Told To Leave

Jefferson, Ga., Sept. 5—The early arrest of five men accused of being members of the masked mob which flogged Will Shockley, colored, and members of his family last Thursday near Johnson's Mill, in Jackson county, is expected some time this week, according to a statement given to the Macon Telegraph tonight by Sheriff R. M. Culberson of Jackson county. Sheriff Culberson says the men have been identified by the victims.

Shockley and his son were taken from their home to a distance in the country; made to disrobe and were brutally beaten with a heavy leather thong. According to Sheriff Culberson, he has been informed that the whipping was the result of Shockley's refusal to leave the county after he had been warned to do so.

According to the story told by the Negro he was in his bed when the masked men entered his home. He asked the men what they were after and one of them replied, "You," and hit him over the head with a revolver.

Shockley grabbed the man's hand which held the weapon, and as he did so, another of the masked raiders hit him over the head with a revolver and all but knocked him unconscious.

The mob overpowered Shockley's wife and his son and then carried the two men outside into two automobiles where they were carried seven miles into the country.

They were ordered to remove all their clothing and the lash was then applied. After the whipping the two men were told that if they did not leave the county soon "they would have more of this coming to them." Following the flogging the victims were left to make their way home the best way they could.

The arrest to be made, according to Sheriff Culberson, will be on warrants taken out by Shockley.

The regular term of the Jackson Superior court will not be held before February and whether or not a special session will be called to make a probe of the flogging could not be learned, according to the Jackson county officers.

FLOGGING QUIZ TURNS OUT TO BE HUGE FARCE

Thru Scheme By Friends Of Floggers On Jury All Go Free In Spite Of Convicting Evidence

CLARKESVILLE, Ga., Aug. 15.—Citizens here declaring that failure of the Grand Jury to return indictments in several flogging cases in Habersham County was a 'farce' and a complete miscarriage of justice, resulting from the fact that friends of the floggers were in control, will make an effort to reopen the case when the next Grand Jury is sworn in. Victims of the flogging were six women and girls and three young men who were taken from their homes May 12.

At the meeting of the Grand Jury it is stated that the jurors declined to call in the Solicitor General, although this is customary, that one member of the Grand Jury was a father of one of the boys accused, and that he was permitted to conduct the cross-examination of complainants.

Although witnesses appeared and identified eight men as participants in the outrage, friends of the floggers, it is alleged conceived a plan of consolidating the proposed indictments against men who were identified and thus forced the minority members of the Grand Jury to vote on all indictments at the same time.

Some of the Jurors Balked.

Through this scheme, some members of the Grand Jury were unwilling to vote to indict some of the men who were not indentified and hence all of those under suspicion were permitted to go free under a "no bill," according to George Phillips, a Clarkesville contractor, who was a member of the Grand Jury.

ATLANTA

GEORGIA

SEP 7

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It is alleged the negroes—father and son—were flogged because the older had refused to heed warnings to leave the county. Before they were flogged, it is said, they were mercilessly beaten over the heads with the stocks of revolvers.

The sheriff of Jackson county reports that five of the masked men were identified by the victims and that warrants have been issued and arrests will shortly be made.

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2 NEGROES LASHED NEAR JEFFERSON

Jefferson, Ga., September 2.—(Special.)—Floggings by masked bands broke out anew in northeast Georgia last night according to Will Murray, an aged negro, and his 17-year-old son son, who were brought to Jefferson today for treatment for injuries they said were sustained when they were taken from their home and severely beaten by a band of eight masked men.

According to the story told here by the negroes, about 11 o'clock last night the band knocked down the door to their home, which is on the Will Hayes farm about six miles from here on the Winder road, and seized the boy and struck him over the head with a blunt instrument, apparently a pistol.

After subduing him, the father was also attacked and beaten into submission and then the two negroes were taken from the house and placed in automobiles, one each in a car occupied by four other men, and after driving several miles on the Pendergrass road the negroes were each given 15 lashes with a leather strap.

After being stripped and beaten the victims, who wore only a shirt, were left in the road and were told to make their way back home the "best way they could."

The negroes say the only reason the men gave for beating them was that the wife of Will Murray had been arranging trysting places for white boys and girls. The woman was also struck by the band before they left the home, but she was not seriously hurt and no effort was made to take her along with the father and son, it was said.

The negro woman is reported as saying she recognized at least two of the floggers, and while no arrests have been made, citizens here today stated that the case would in all probability be thoroughly investigated by Jackson county officers.

The wounds on the negroes' heads were more severe than those caused by the lashing, physicians said.

The negroes gave as the reason for the flogging the fact that they had moved last spring from one farm to another in the neighborhood.

THREE TO FIVE YEARS IS PENALTY VERDICT CARRIES

Soperton Jury Convicts First Man Tried on Charge of Severely Beating Editor of News.

DEFENDANT DENIED PART IN LASHING

Sentence To Be Passed This Morning; No Date Set for Trial of Other Three Men in Case.

Soperton, Ga., August 17.—(AP)—Raymond Lee was found guilty by a superior court jury here tonight of a charge of assault with intent to murder in connection with the flogging of H. M. Flanders, editor of a local newspaper, on the night of February 25.

The verdict, which carries a penalty of from three to five years in the state prison, was returned at 10:30 p. m., after the jury had deliberated exactly two hours. Sentence will be passed at 9 o'clock tomorrow morning by Judge Eschol Graham, who presided at the trial.

Officials said tonight that no plans yet had been made to try Sheriff Thigpen and the other two defendants. It was pointed out that Judge Graham goes to Eastman tomorrow to preside at a murder trial and that the cases hardly could be called before next week.

Flanders, who publishes The News, a weekly paper, had not fully recovered at the time of the attack from the effects of a bullet wound when he was shot on a principal street here several years ago by a man who objected to a certain article which appeared in the publication.

Is Semi-Invalid.

The flogging rendered him almost a semi-invalid, members of his family said, and he returned here from Atlanta where he is under a specialist's care, to testify at the trial. He announced shortly after the attack, however, that his crusade for more stringent law enforcement would be continued in The News.

Flanders, the state attempted to show, was whipped because of his persistent editorial attacks on all forms of lawlessness and particularly liquor law violations.

Lee, who was indicted with Sheriff W. L. Thigpen, of this (Treutlen) county, Henry McLendon and his son, Joe Lee, on charges of complicity in the flogging, was the first to go to trial. He was identified positively by Flanders as the member of a party of four masked men who knocked him unconscious by a blow on the head just before the lash was administered.

The editor, who appeared as the chief prosecution witness and closed his testimony yesterday by accusing Lee from the stand, described how he was halted while en route alone in his automobile to a nearby town by the four masked men who passed him in their machine which they had used to block the road.

Dragged from his automobile after one of his assailants had shouted, "We'll teach you what to print in that paper of yours," he was rendered unconscious by one of the masked men when he attempted to resist. Then, while lying in the road in a semi-conscious state, he was flogged severely, and revived to find himself bleeding from lacerations to his back from his shoulders down.

Summoning strength to crawl to his automobile, the editor said he managed to make his way back to Soperton where he received first aid in a drug store. Sheriff Thigpen and the other three defendants were arrested soon afterward on his complaint by the sheriff of an adjoining county, who was summoned to investigate the case by local county officials.

Auto Burned.

Before the arrests, the sheriff's automobile was mysteriously destroyed by fire and this incident formed the basis of an indictment charging arson against the four men. County officials charged Thigpen's machine was that used by the floggers, but the sheriff denied it.

The case of Lee went to the jury in superior court at 8:30 o'clock tonight. Both sides rested late today. The state closed its case with the testimony of Jim McNeese, recalled to the stand, who swore to talking with Lee about the editorial in Flander's paper and said Lee made the remark that "'If Flanders continued that kind of stuff he would get a beating,' or words to that effect."

The defense closed with an additional statement from Lee in which he told how good he had been to McNeese, a "hand" on his farm, and said that McNeese was "mad at him" was the cause of his testimony against him.

The trial today was featured by the statement of Raymond Lee, who took the stand in his own defense and entered full denial of participation in the affair. Flanders said he was told by his assailants that he was beaten because of editorials he had written condemning lawlessness in Treutlen county.

Lee stated that he spent the entire day of February 25 working "about the farm," with several other farmers aiding him. He said they were repairing a farm house. Late in the day, he said, he went to Soperton with Lance Spivey but remained in town only a short time before returning home.

Stayed at Home.

Upon his return, he testified, he found Joe Lee and Henry McLendon, both defendants in the case, there. Joe soon left for Soperton, and McLendon left shortly afterward, accompanied by Ida Lee, daughter of Raymond. They went to McLendon's home, he said. All had gone from the Lee farm before sundown and after the usual chores were done, Raymond said he retired for the night.

He said late in the evening, just before going to bed, he walked down to the home of one of his tenants but was gone only a short time. He said the first he knew of the flogging was on the following day.

Raymond Lee was at home and "around the place" all evening and went to bed at his usual hour, on the night of February 25, his daughter, Louise, testified today.

Jim McNeese, a tenant on the Lee place, told the jury that he was about Lee's home "at sundown," and that Henry McLendon was also there. He testified that he did not see George Williams on the farm, however. Williams has testified that he was at Lee's home about that hour and assisted in feeding the stock.

S. W. Simmons, another defense witnessess, testified to seeing Lee, McLendon and Joe Lee, all three under indictment charged with the flogging, talking in the yard near the house "about sundown." He said he heard Raymond remark to McLendon "Wait until I get my coat and I'll be ready."

Joe Lee was walking away to his automobile nearby when Raymond made the remark, Sammons testified.

Sammons said he was passing the Lee farm when he saw the men.

Continued on

Ku Klux Klan-1927 IL

Georgia.

ATLANTA, GA., Constitution

AUG 21 1927

Denies Stump Burning.

Sheriff G. F. Flanders, of Swainsboro, swore he found no sign of any logs or stumps burned near the Lee home where Raymond Lee claimed he was burning stumps the night of the flogging. He was supported in his testimony by his deputy sheriff, Medlock, and County Policeman H. P. Waller, of Treutlen county. The state offered testimony of several business men in an effort to impeach the testimony of George Williams, the boy who swore to having helped Lee burn stumps on the night of the flogging.

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The mob strikes at the institutions of government, and does so from ambush, the retreat of the coward.

5 ARRESTS SEEN IN FLOGGING CASE

Jefferson, Ga., September 5.—(AP) The early arrest of five men accused of being members of the masked mob which flogged Will Shockley, negro, and members of his family last Thursday, near Johnson Mill, in Jackson county, is expected to come this week, according to a statement given to the Macon Telegraph tonight by Sheriff R. M. Culberson, of Jackson county. Sheriff Culberson says the men have been identified by the negro.

The arrests to be made, according to Sheriff Culberson, will be on warrants taken out by the negro.

The negro and his son were taken from their home to a distance in the county to be made to disrobe and were brutally beaten with a heavy leather thong. According to Sheriff Culberson, he has been informed that the whipping was the result of the negro's refusal to leave the county after he had been warned to do so.

According to the story told by the negro he was in his bed when the masked mob entered his home. He asked the men what they were after, and one of them replied, "you" and hit him over the head with a revolver. The negro grabbed the man's hand which held the weapon, and as he did so another of the masked raiders hit him over the head with a revolver and all but knocked him unconscious.

The mob overpowered the negro's wife and his son and then carried the two men outside into two automobiles where they were carried seven miles into the country.

They were ordered to remove all their clothing and the lash was then applied. After the whipping the two negroes were told that if they did not leave the county soon "they would have more of this coming to them." Following the flogging the victims were left to make their way home the best way they could.

The regular term of the Jackson superior court will not be held before February and whether or not a special session will be called to make a probe of the flogging could not be learned, according to the Jackson county officer.

The Old-Time Southern Klansmen Were Not Women and Children Beaters.



Those hairy-necked hoodlums in Georgia and adjoining states who think that in their masked night-riding flogging forays they are imitating the noble and neccessary work of the original Ku Klux Klansmen of the south in the years between 1866 and 1870, are mistaken by 180 degrees.

The men of six decades ago were of the surviving flower of southern civilization, who accepted faithfully the rational results of the War Between the States, and banded themselves together in regulatory organizations to preserve the vestiges of personal liberties and social safety from the tyrannies and outrages of alien and negro usurpations.

They could no longer oppose bayonets to bayonets. They were under soldier paroles of honor. They could only resort to secret councils and such strategy as could not be foreseen or forestalled. Their freedom and rights of citizenship were under almost universal suppression. Their families, homes and property were daily threatened by the barbarous vengence of ignorant black freedmen, fired by the incendiary counsels of south haters from the east and north.

The law of self-defense was appealed to—and the very best men of the south headed the program of civil and social preservation.

* * * *

The Cue and the Crusade.

The cue for their movement had unwittingly been given by some students at Pulaski, Tenn. For prankish purposes they had organized a club to which they gave the Greek title "kuklos," meaning a "circle." They engaged in such night stunts as now distinguish Halloween from other nights of the year. They found their most susceptible and superstitious victims among the colored people of the vicinage, who attributed the innocent devilries of the students to ghosts and demons from graveyards and the pit.

Noting these effects, the veteran leaders of the community adopted the student scheme under the leadership of General John C. Brown, and began the organization that took the subsequent form and name of the "Ku Klux Klan," with General Nathan Bedford Forrest as "Imperial Wizard." Because of General Forrest's reputed authorship of the "Fort Pillow massacre," so-called, in which so great a command of colored United States troops perished, his very name was a terror to the negroes of the south. Hence his selection as chief official of the Klan.

The Klan was originally designed only to function regionally—that is, independently in any state that might choose to set up such an organization. And for that reason it was, at first, state autonomous.

* * * *

The Need for the Klans.

It should be again recalled that at the close of the war the negroes who had been freed by it were taken under tutelage by evil-hearted adventurers from the north, bent upon using them for the punishment of their former owners.

They organized the more daring and vicious negroes into "Union Leagues," the "Red String Order," the "Heroes of America" and "Black Avengers," with others of fantastic names and ceremonies.

Those negro bands soon began to menace the white people, especially in rural regions, by robberies, by maiming and killing stock, poisoning dogs and poultry, and firing the outbuildings of farms, against whose owners they had some personal grudge.

To defend themselves against these acts and the symptoms of a growing spirit of outlawry, it was absolutely necessary that the southern white people should organize a defense.

A "White Brotherhood" was organized here in Georgia with General John B. Gordon at its head.

In Alabama it was the "White League," with General Joe Wheeler as leader.

"The Pale Faces" sprang up in North Carolina and the "Caucasian League" in Mississippi and Arkansas.

"The Red Shirts" occupied the defense lines in South Carolina, led by General Matthew C. Butler.

All these eventually became constituents in the south-widened "Ku Klux Klan," under General Forrest as supreme wizard.

* * * *

The Great White Order.

But it was after the many bloody riots in New Orleans in 1865-6 that an organization was formed for the preservation of white civilization and supreme rule in the nation.

It was formed in New Orleans, in May, 1867, with General John B. Hood as commander-in-chief, with Generals Harry T. Hays and Octavius Ogden as aids and organizers.

The new order took the name of "Knights of the White Camelia," and the members usually wore one of those native flowers in his lapel buttonhole.

It was to be nation-wide and not solely a southern defense organization, and it had the sympathy and support of thousands of northern and western men.

The writer of this story became a member of the K. W. C. in New Orleans after its permanent organization in June, 1868, and served under the command of General Ogden.

There was no intent upon the part of these various secret southern organizations to go about maltreating obnoxious persons, white or black, or to perpetrate any personal punishments or death sentences upon anyone in any case. The whole program embraced only affecting the superstitious fears of the average negroes, frightening them into peaceful conduct, and only using positive coercion upon those who incited them to or led them in actual outrages upon white people. We of the rank and file were always forbidden to use any force except in self-defense.

* * * *

The Knights Were True Men.

As a rule, the men enlisted in the K. W. C., the K. K. K., the "White Leagues" and the "Pale Faces" were ex-Confederate soldiers and their sons. They were particularly sworn, as follows:

"Do you believe in the superiority of your race?" Answer: "I do."

"Are you opposed to allowing the control of the political affairs of this country to go, in whole or in part, into the hands of the African race, and will you do everything in your power to prevent it?" Answer: "Yes."

In the face of some extra examples of outrage by colored people and their vile white counsellors, sometimes one of the white circles would meet violence with violence, when whippings and deaths would occur.

But these brave and honorable men of the klans did not go about as masked and hooded censors of morals and civil conduct, measured by their own distorted standards. As soon as courts were set up in which they had confidence they disbanded and left law and order to the keeping of the regular authorities.

To go about in disguise at night beating up women and young girls and boys would have been abhorrent to a real knight of the original klans. I never heard of their ever applying a lash to the most abandoned negro woman.

And those old-time knights would have been first and most active to cap-

ture and condemn the modern Georgia and Alabama women and boy flogg

A Mask Wearer Lifts the Mask.

When the true inwardness of the Ku Klux Klan organization was revealed several years ago by its course of conduct and the expression of certain of its members, The Commercial Appeal immediately opposed it. This opposition was predicated largely upon two chief grounds. In the first place, it was considered both iniquitous and dangerous that any body of men should seek to dominate the political affairs of the country in secret. And in the second place, it was deemed antagonistic to the genius of the republic that racial or religious tests should be made of the rights of citizenship. Naturally the divisions and antagonisms that would be created thereby were viewed as menacing.

That many good citizens have been members of the klan at one time or another, this paper never doubted. But that such persons were never sympathetic with the purposes to which the klan has been put no sensible man will now deny. Good citizens do not address their personal grievances through masking themselves and committing acts of violence that compound even the crimes such actions might be meant to correct. Nor can good citizenship endorse hatred that vents itself in denying to other good citizens rights that are guaranteed to them by the Constitution.

The iniquity that was involved in a secret government within an open government has been exposed in all its hideousness by happenings in Indiana. There the head of the klan achieved such dominance over governmental officials from senators and governors on down that he considered himself above all authority and the law itself. He so brutally mistreated a young woman that she died and then he felt secure that he could not be convicted. Good citizenship, regardless of race or creed, saw to it that this man was disillusioned. He is now serving a life term in the penitentiary. But more important than that is the fact that he set the nation to thinking. And the logical conclusion was that a secret government either will destroy organized government or must be destroyed by it.

Then the trail of hatred and denied rights of citizenship along the lines of race and creed has led to countless outrages throughout the country. In several of the states, including Alabama, the feeling of animosity and assumed superiority has made members of the secret organization claim the right to judge other people and punish them by floggings and otherwise because they were displeasing to their self-assumed judges.

No doubt the lawless element that took men, women and children out and flogged them, or otherwise mistreated them, felt secure from punishment through the fact that the chief prosecutor of the state was a member of their organization. But this prosecutor had sense and loyalty enough to know that his duty to the republic far transcended any duty to the secret body of which he was a member. He has brought about the indictment and conviction of many of his former associates and he admits that strong efforts of the klan were made to prevent him from performing his duty.

The natural result of his position was that he has resigned from the secret order that tried to make him an unfaithful public official. And in his resignation he recites the truth that his own case proves, which is that the Ku Klux Klan is the greatest existing menace to lawful and constituted authority. He speaks as one who knows, and his words should have a tremendous effect throughout the country. As a wearer of the mask he has lifted that device of secrecy and furnished to the nation a picture of an evil that bears a menace to its existence.

Two governments can not exist in the same place any more than two material objects can occupy the same spot at the same time.

MACON EDITOR KIDNAPED, BEATEN

Macon, Ga., November 8.—(AP)—Pat Richards, former Atlanta newspaper man, and now state editor of the Macon News, was kidnaped from the residence of his mother-in-law, Mrs. James H. Smith, 118 English avenue, just before 8 o'clock tonight, thrown into a blue-colored automobile, terribly beaten by a blackjack in the hands of the kidnapers and hauled away onto a main crosstown thoroughfare.

Near the Central of Georgia railway overpass, which is close to fire engine company No. 6, Richards succeeded in freeing himself from his captors and he either fell or jumped from the car.

The kidnapers are said to have stopped their car and attempted to gather up their victim, when a woman's screams frightened them away. Two women in another car took Richards from the arms of rescuing firemen and carried him to a local hospital.

At midnight city detectives booked Johnny Adams, drug clerk, at the county jail, charged with attempted murder, rioting and assault. Adams denies any part in the attack, but he was named by Richards as one of his assailants. The second man named by Richards has not been located.

Richards gave no motive for the attack but the police said they were investigating that angle.

Richards was recently married and he and his wife were visiting Mrs. Richards' mother, Mrs. James H. Smith, who is critically ill, when the kidnaping occurred.

ATLANTA

GEORGIA

SEP 15 1927

FLOGGINGS IN ALABAMA.

The attorney general of Alabama is authority for the statement that not less than 70 floggings have taken place in that state in the last several weeks.

Perhaps no other state in the country can "top" that record, although Georgia is by no means at the bottom of the list.

The truth is many floggings are not reported. The victims are frequently unwilling to stand the publicity. The cowardly hoodlums who are guilty of the crimes are frequently protected by "fraternity feeling" in the communities in which they live.

The attorney general of Alabama is determined to put a stop to mob violence if he can do so, and in this he is to be commended.

Alabama has made a good record in mob convictions, although in one county the court record stands as a stigma and will until the law is vindicated.

It is now up to Jefferson county to vindicate her good name.

It is one of the largest and most prosperous counties of Alabama. It is populated by good people. It will be unthinkable if a small band of hooded thugs can "get away" with the night-riding crimes such as have been recently reported.

Mob violence not only strikes at government but at civilization.

It is antagonistic to every degree of law and order. It puts anarchy ahead of the constitution. It promotes abuse of our national ideals.

It must be curbed.

GEORGIA KLAN HITS FLOGGINGS

Convention at Macon Asks That Acts of Violence Against Citizens Be Treated as Felony.

Macon, Ga., October 27.—(AP)—The flogging, lashing, beating, or otherwise maltreating of a person or persons within the bounds of the state of Georgia, will not be tolerated by the Georgia Klorero, Knights of the Ku Klux Klan, according to a resolution passed today by the organization in convention here.

More than 500 klansmen, representing approximately 200 klan organizations of Georgia, went on record as "favoring the passage of a law by the law-making bodies of Georgia—making it a felony for any man, or men, or any person or persons, klansman or otherwise, robed or unrobed, hooded or unhooded, American or un-American, to take the law in his or their hands to flog, beat, or otherwise maltreat, any person or persons within the bounds of the state of Georgia." Floggings in most case are considered a misdemeanor.

"Therefore, be it resolved," the resolution concluded, "that all klansmen in Georgia do throw their full strength and power behind the legally constituted officers of the law to bring about the conviction of those found guilty of such violation."

Adoption of the resolution was the only business transacted during the session here that was made public. That information was given out by General N. B. Forrest, grand dragon. No other member of the organization would discuss business transacted in their session. The names of the speakers also were withheld from publication.

The body adjourned shortly after 6 o'clock this afternoon.

General Forrest discussed floggings in Georgia and Alabama freely and openly, and denied that the klan had anything to do with whippings in either state.

WHY NOT DISCARD THE HOOD?

The Georgia "Klorno" of the Ku Klux Klan—which, we assume, is a state convention of that organization—has gone on record, according to an official announcement, as opposed to all floggings, and has resolved to aid constituted authorities in apprehending and punishing such violators. This action is to be commended.

The question now is, will klan groups in rural communities where night-riding and "regulating" have prevailed for months and even years obey the resolution?

Will they stop hoodlumism so long as their faces are covered with hoods?

The grand dragon of Georgia is quoted as saying the klan has had nothing to do with floggings in either Georgia or Alabama.

Attorney General McCall, of Alabama, who was a klansman and who resigned because of alleged official connection of the order with the floggings in that state, says his investigations prove that the hooded order is responsible.

It is undeniable that a school principal in Stephens county, Georgia, who was the exalted cyclops of a local klan, was convicted for flogging a woman.

While resolving against floggings, which is worthy, the klan should resolve to lift the hood from the faces of its members, except in the lodge rooms.

If it will do this it will save itself the embarrassment of having to carry the burden of public resentment when hooded mobs break and defy the law and constituted authority.

When the hoods of the Ku Klux Klan are used by night marauders, as everybody knows is the case in practically all such instances, then if those who hide behind them are not members of the order, the order itself is being seriously imposed upon.

The way to stop this imposition is to stop wearing the hoods.

With a good resolution to help the law, a practical illustration of constructive service to that end can now result by another resolution that every member shall keep his face uncovered at all times, except in lodge and ritualistic work.

Ku Klux Klan—1927

Illinois.

RATHBONE, FRIEND OF RACE, CLEARED OF KU KLUX STIGMA

Washington, D. C., Feb. 25.—One of the best friends of our Race in congress is Hon. Henry R. Rathbone, congressman at large for Illinois. Every year he delivers an address at Howard university and recently spoke to the students of its law school.

On Feb. 16, he was the speaker at the Lincoln's birthday celebration, which was held under the auspices of the Colored Women's Federation of the District of Columbia clubs at the Zion Baptist church.

Congressman Rathbone has supported every measure in the interests of our Race since he has been in the house of representatives and has the entire confidence of the Colored people wherever he is known.

The story that he was connected with the Ku Klux Klan has been fully retracted as will be shown by the following item in The Chicago Tribune:

"The Fellowship Forum, the organ of the Ku Klux Klan and other anti-Catholic organizations, stated today that it made a mistake last week in announcing that Representative Henry R. Rathbone (Rep., Ill.), would head the advisory committee of 1,000 which is to sponsor its broadcasting station, now being established near the capitol. Representative Rathbone stated tonight that he is not and never has been a member of the Ku Klux Klan.

KLAN BILL GETS SHORT SHRIFT IN ILLINOIS HOUSE

Kill Measure Requiring Flag on All Schools.

Springfield, Ill., June 16.—[Special.]—The Ku Klux Klan reared its head in the Illinois house of representatives today and was beaten down by the overwhelming vote of 117 to 7.

The issue was the attempted passage of a bill to require the flying of the national flag at all times over public buildings and all schools—public, private, church, and parochial.

Representative Wallace A. Bandy of Williamson county was the sponsor of the bill. Though public references to its origin were indirect only, the measure was admittedly Klan inspired.

Democrats Are Aroused.

The house was late in wait for the calling of the bill, in particular the Democratic side, where many members are of the Catholic faith. Immediately on the bill's appearance Representative Truman A. Snell of Carlinville arose and in an impassioned address denounced it as an embodiment of all the intolerance of the ages.

"I don't give a tinker's damn for loyalty that has to be compelled," he shouted. "This measure, making it mandatory on the heads of all schools to fly the flag every day strikes at religious liberty in this state. The spirit wrapped up in that bill ought to be defeated."

Representative John H. Devine of Dixon said: "We might just as well come out in the open. We know the origin of this bill. It hails from Williamson county, which has written the blackest chapter in the history of Illinois, where lawlessness and murder have run rife under the leadership of men, thirty-five of whose followers are now in the penitentiary. I don't want any so-called patriotism thrust on me by that outfit from Williamson county or by the order that the gentleman represents."

Lauds Negroes' Patriotism.

There were more fiery speeches on the roll call, among them one by Representative Warren B. Douglas, colored member from Chicago's Third district, who lauded the patriotic achievements of his race and won applause.

"We ought," said Representative Arthur Roe of Vandalia, "to broadcast throughout the United States the word that the house of representatives of Illinois is opposed to the standardization of patriotism."

Mr. Bandy interrupted the roll call, saying he believed the members did not understand the purposes of the bill, and asked postponement of further consideration.

"We understand the bill all right," Mr. Snell shot back and the house shouted down Mr. Bandy's motion and insisted on a completion of the vote. There were only 7 "Yeas" to 117 "nays."

Seek Oath for Smith.

Another stir came when Representative Reed F. Cutler, majority floor leader, substituted a resolution for his bill authorizing a legislative committee to go to Washington and demand that Senator-elect Frank L. Smith be permitted to take the oath of office. Mr. Cutler explained that he believed a resolution was the proper procedure.

The resolution went into detail, declaring that the United States senate had no right to deny any state its two senators and that the continued refusal to administer the oath to Col. Smith would deprive Illinois of its due representation for six years.

"We are not trying to tell the senate what to do," Mr. Cutler declared. "We are merely asking that he be allowed to take the oath. Then let the senate act as it sees fit."

"This is offensive to every member who believes the senate has the right to decide for itself as to its membership," said Howard P. Castle of Barrington. He recited the facts brought out concerning the utilities contributions during the senate inquiry.

Says Money Is Smith's God.

"Money is Frank L. Smith's god," he declared. "Even if I am read out of the party, I don't want to be represented by such a man."

"How did Senator Deneen vote?" asked Frank A. McCarthy of Elgin.

Mr. Castle admitted Senator Deneen had voted to let Col. Smith take the oath.

"Haven't you been and aren't you a supporter of Senator Deneen?" Mr. McCarthy demanded.

"I have been and am," replied Mr. Castle, "but he does not determine questions of principle for me."

The Democrats, who voted almost to a man against the original bill when it came up a few days ago on second reading, adopted a different method of getting out from under the resolution. They insisted on the adoption of an amendment offered by Mr. Roe striking out the provision that the two committee members from each house should be chosen, one from each of the major parties.

The resolution in this amended form was carried by a viva voce vote.

Ku Klux Klan—1927 Indiana.

INDIANA TURNS DOWN KLAN RULE OF LEGISLATURE

Indianapolis, Ind., Jan. 6.—[Special.]—The Indiana legislature convened today with a man frankly anti-klan as president of the senate and a speaker of the house elected over a klan supported candidate. In his annual message, however, Gov. Jackson, who rode into power as an alleged klan favorite in 1924, asserted that charges of wholesale political corruption, in so far as they concerned state officials, were not made in good faith and that there "is not a scintilla of creditable evidence upon which they can be sustained in any degree."

Called Klan Beneficiary.

Jackson himself has frequently been mentioned as a political beneficiary of D. C. Stephenson, former grand dragon of the Indiana klan, who is now serving a life term for murder of a young woman. Jackson reiterated his faith in the 1925 legislature, supposedly dominated by Stephenson.

After devoting considerable time to discussion of the corruption investigation, Jackson recommended repeal of the absent voters law, but took issue with his own party platform and Indiana's United States senators by siding with former Senator Albert J. Beveridge in favoring retention of the direct primary for want of a better substitute. He recommended that property reappraisals be made when seen fit by the state tax board, thus heeding farm organizations claiming unfair rural taxation. He also asked abolition of the state pardon board.

Plan to Ask State Probe.

James Nejdl, senate president pro tem., represents a northern Indiana industrial district. Speaker Harry Leslie left the rostrum in 1925 to oppose a Stephenson klan measure aimed at the state highway commission. Both houses have strong Republican majorities, but because of the klan and corruption scandals party fences are shaky. Republicans pushing the corruption investigation plan to ask the legislature to start a state probe.

INDIANA SENATOR ATTACKS COURT AS KLAN RULED

Bill Asking Its Abolition Is Defeated.

Indianapolis, Ind., Feb. 1.—[Special.]—Asserting that the [Indianapolis] Criminal court has been "a blot on the good name of Indiana," Senator Joseph M. Craven, veteran Democratic leader, today bitterly arraigned Judge James A. Collins and the 1925 grand jury that returned indictments charging misappropriation of less than $200 of state owned anvils against the state highway commission.

These indictments prompted certain members of the Indiana Republican Editors association not members of the Ku Klux Klan to investigate Indiana political conditions which they say disclosed wholesale corruption.

Cravens' Bill Killed.

Senator Cravens' speech was in support of his bill to abolish the Criminal court, the measure having come from the committee on a divided report, a minority favoring passage and a majority favoring indefinite postponement. Following a fiery debate the senate by a strictly partisan vote, adopted the majority report, 33 to 13, killing the bill.

In the course of his speech Cravens said he and Walter S. Chambers, a member of the 1925 senate were indicted by the 1925 grand jury in connection with the Democratic minority "bolt" and trip to Ohio during the 1925 session of the legislature, but that the prosecuting attorney characterized the indictment as "ridiculous" and declined to permit it to be filed. He also referred to influence in Indiana politics of D. C. Stephenson, now serving a life sentence for murder and former grand dragon of the Indiana klan. Judge Collins has frequently been mentioned in klan affairs.

Saw Letter to Collins.

"I dislike to bring in the name of the man who said 'I am the law in Indiana' [Stephenson] but I am afraid it is necessary now," Cravens said. "But I have seen the letter he wrote to the judge of this court and I have seen the letter in which he asserted that these indictments were framed.

"The members of his highway commission were to be ousted so that others could get control of the $15,000,000 that the highway commission spends each year.

"Then came the trial of the man who said 'I am the law in Indiana.' The spotlight of the press was turned against him and he was turning and squirming. He sent a messenger to the Marion county grand jury to indict the members of the Democratic minority who went to Ohio and the prosecuting attorney refused to prosecute these indictments.

"This bill proposes to do away with this court because we can't get at it any other way. We must clean the record of Indiana and turn away that finger of scorn that is pointed at us."

Gerrymander Bill Beaten.

The gerrymander bill provides for an increase in the number of Indianapolis city councilmen from nine to fifteen, said to have had the support of the city Republican organization headed by George V. Coffin, city and county chairman, and klan boss was defeated in the house today.

Attempts to kill the workmen's compensation bill, which would increase the maximum amount of weekly payments in the present act from $13.20 to $16.50, failed in the senate when senators voted down a minority committee report for indefinite postponement, 80 to 15.

SEE BILL AS KLAN MOVE TO RULE INDIANA POLICE

Legislature Reaches Half Way Post.

Indianapolis, Ind., Feb. 5.—[Special.]—Under terms of a bill that has been drafted by forces conspicuous in legislative lobbies, the secretary of state would lose all supervision over the Indiana state police force and that power would be transferred to a state police commission of three persons, no more than two of whom could belong to the same political party. The commission would be appointed by the governor. Gov. Jackson has frequently been friendly to the Ku Klux Klan factions of both Indiana parties.

When the general assembly reached the half way mark of its sixty day session today, observers found that approximately one-fourth of the bills introduced called for increased expenditure of public money.

More Money Expended.

Of 466 bills introduced in both houses 161 affect expenditure of public money, taxation, and administration of tax laws. Of these 125 call outright for increased expenditures, seventeen probably would result in reduction of governmental expenses, nineteen relate to the administration of taxing laws. One feature of the session has been the large number of bills creating new courts, the total now being thirteen.

Bills that would require further outlay of public money include state owned cement mills, old age pensions pensions for the blind, increases of salaries for public officials, lifting the limit of road bonded indebtedness and individual claims.

Considerable attention is being paid to taxation bills. Bills to strengthen the power of the state tax board have been introduced, while the Indiana farm bureau is backing a move to make the earning power of farm lands the basis of taxation. The farm bureau also is supporting another constitutional amendment which would make possible the imposition of an income tax.

Fight on Education Bill.

A fight is brewing on a senate bill which would reorganize the state board of education by cutting it from thirteen to five members. Textbook companies are reported to favor this measure. Two years ago D. C. Stephenson, Klan leader, backed a similar move, but was thwarted when Harry G. Leslie, speaker, carried the bill home in his pocket.

The house today passed the teachers' tenure bill, 66 to 22.

After it had been branded "Socialistic" and "paternalistic," the old age pension bill failed to pass in the senate.

DEFEAT INDIANA KU KLUX INQUIRY IN LEGISLATURE

G. O. P. Is Solid Against Blowing Lid Off.

BY ORVILLE DWYER.

Indianapolis, Ind., Feb. 3.—[Special.]—Efforts to force a legislative investigation of the political scandal that rocked the state just prior to the election last November failed today in the Indiana house of representatives.

The attempt to lay bare the supergovernment, the intrigues, the bribery, connivery and corruptions that were charged—the alleged sale of city, county, and state jobs for political favor; of an alliance between the leaders of the Ku Klux Klan and some of the state's highest officers—was killed by the Republican majority in the house.

The Democrats tried to put over a resolution for the appointment of a house committee of five to tread the alleged morass in which two grand juries have become involved and failed. The Republican majority standing solid voted it down.

Thomas H. Adams, chairman of the press probe committee of the Indiana Republican Editorial association—the man who started it all last November—was both commended and criticized in the debating that preceded the vote. Both sides admitted afterward that the action rather left "Brother Tom out on a limb."

"Brother Tom" Is Undaunted.

"Brother Tom," that hoary headed gladiator from Vincennes, Ind., betimes, by the way, known by the colorful sobriquet of "the Lion of Old Vincennes," was neither nonplused nor daunted—as was expected—however. The sixty-six year old veteran of many a Hoosier battle defied his enemies with that favored of defies, "I have just begun to fight." Adams was chiefly incensed by Representative J. Glen Harris of Lake county, chairman of the house judiciary committee A, out of which the Democrats forced the resolution.

Harris, a Republican, was the only one who spoke against the passage of the resolution on the floor, and it was among his statements that Adams said was a falsehood.

"This resolution," said Harris, "had not been in the hands of judiciary committee A an hour when Tom Adams sent a messenger to me asking me not to call him before tthe committee as a witness. Why?

Calls Legislator Liar.

"That," said the man from Vincennes, "was a falsehood. Harris knows it. Quite to the contrary, I met him in the house of representatives lobby right after the resolution went into committee and told him I was ready. He said, 'We'll want to hear from you.' I said, 'I'm ready right now.' He mumbled he was busy, and that's the last I heard out of him until he told that falsehood on the floor today."

Adams was not in the house, he said, while the debate was on. After today's session he sent Harris this telegram:

"Have just read your speech made on the floor of the house, and you are quoted as saying that I sent a man to you asking you not to summon me. Your statement is a falsehood. I met you a moment last Thursday in the statehouse lobby. I told you then I was ready any time. You did not stop a moment, but rushed on in great haste. I have urged your committee to act and begged that the entire grand jury evidence wherein lies the stupendous exposure be commandeered. You cannot fool the people by such misstatements. I have always been anxious to meet the legislature in any capacity.

"[Signed.) THOMAS H. ADAMS."

Five Democratic representatives spoke in favor of the resolution. They were Gwyn, Bender, Byers, McKesson, and Saunders.

Eyes of Nation on Indiana.

"I believe we have before us the most vital question that will come before us this session," Gwyn said. "The eyes of the nation are upon Indiana. The country is watching to see what we do."

And Representative George L. Saunders editor of the Bluffton Banner:

"They have brother Tom out on a limb and he doesn't know how to get down. But he started something—and where do we go from here. Now we say, 'I am from Indiana—but reserve judgement please.' How long will we have to apologize because we are from Indiana?"

Representative McKesson argued that the house had no power to appoint such a committee—with full judicial powers. Representative Harris, in his argument against the passage of the resolution, questioned it.

"I question whether there's a man in this house who doesn't know we can't get at the grand jury—that we have no right," Representative Harris said. He then explained that there was no ground for a house committee inquiry because judiciary committee A, after diligent effort, had been unable to discover any evidence to support the sensational charges of Adams and his associates.

"Some of the testimony before the grand jury recently came to me indirectly. Adams in his testimony was asked, 'Do you know of any unlawful act of so and so,' the officials of the state being named, from the highest to the lowest, and in each case Adams answered 'No.'

In registering their votes some of the thirty-six Democrats and some of the sixty-one Republicans, both of whom voted on strict partisan lines, arose and explained them. Some of the former said they voted aye because the people demanded an investigation. Some of the Republicans said they were voting no because the people had exhibited no interest in the matter whatever.

The resolution that had slumbered in committee since Jan. 16 went back to indictments of members of the state highway commission which have been largely charged were framed; into the more recent Adams charges and still more recent failure of two Marion county grand juries to act in any of those matters.

What Resolution Called For.

The resolution also asked:

"That such committee is hereby empowered to sit and act at such time or times and at such place or places as it may deem necessary; to require by subpœna or otherwise the attendance of witnesses, the production of books, papers, documents or articles, and to do such other acts as may be necessary in the matter of said investigation."

The chairman of the committee or any member thereof, may administer oaths to witnesses. Every person who, having been summoned a sa witness, or summoned to produce any book, paper, document or article by authority of said committee, will fully make default, or who having appeared, refuses to answer any question pertinent to the investigation, heretofore authorized, shall be held to the penalties provided by the statue of the state of Indiana for contempt and any court of record of the state of Indiana is hereby clother with jurisdiction to hear and determine such contempt and assess punishment therefor, on the complaint of this committee or any member thereof."

The name of D. C. Stephenson, former grand dragon of the Ku Klux Klan, alleged political dictator of the state, who is now serving a term of life for the murder of an Indianapolis girl, was only once brought into the debate. That was when Representative Saunders alleged he was apparently able to give the grand jury predictions that it would "do nothing,' from his cell in Michigan City penitentiary.

EDITORS HEAD OFF REPORT ON KLAN RULE IN INDIANA

Decide to Print Something Good About State.

Indianapolis, Ind., Jan. 14.—[Special.]—The Indiana Republican Editors' association, which sponsored sensational charges of wholesale political corruption in the state last fall, today back tracked to its original hands off attitude and refused to support the report of its special investigation committee. Moreover, it chose officers who favor hushing up the whole affair and whose announced policy is: "Print something good about Indiana each day."

When rumors of political corruption during the régime of D. C. Stephenson as Indiana Ku Klux Klan dragon became too audible last spring, the Editors' association went to Gov. Ed Jackson, intimate and lieutenant of Stephenson, and requested him to investigate the charges. Jackson ignored the request, so the association appointed a special probe committee, with Thomas Adams, Vincennes editor, as chairman.

Watson Rebuilding Fences.

Adams announced in September that he had found scandals "that will rock the state and shock the nation." Will Feudner, association secretary and editor of the Republican paper in Senator James E. Watson's home town, concurred with Adams, as did J. Frank McDermond, association president.

But in the heat of battle, when Watson and Jackson buried enmities temporarily to oppose Adams' investigation, McDermond reversed. Today McDermond led in the successful fight to prevent Adams and Feudner from reporting the committee's findings or from voting confidence in Adams.

Adams Continues Fight.

Already read out of the Republican party, Adams nevertheless prevented his home county from going Republican in November. Because of this, the political scalp of Clyde Walb as Republican state committee chairman is being demanded. Watson, reëlected by the slight majority of 11,000, is rebuilding political fences.

Meantime Adams continues his fight, seeking to induce the Indiana legislature to support him where the governor, the United States senators, and now his fellow party editors wouldn't.

INDIANA KLAN DYING; 40,000 TURN IN CARDS

Spirit Kept Alive by Rural Klaverns.

BY PHILIP KINSLEY.

[Chicago Tribune Press Service.]

Indianapolis, Ind., March 13.—[Special.]—That memorable Fourth of July in Kokomo two years ago, when the heavens opened and a shining, silver tipped airplane wafted David Curtis Stephenson into the arms of 50,000 emotionally stirred citizenry of this state, is an event that cannot be overlooked in any analysis of present social and political affairs.

The spectacular emergence of the Napoleonic old man of the klan out of small Evansville politics into statewide power and more, is not an isolated phenomenon to be looked upon as having come and gone. The fruitful field was there, and the results still obtain.

Cast Shadow of Future Events.

It cannot be divorced from day by day happenings, from events as they form and move, from the fashioning of forces that cast the shadow of future events. It is all one piece. The only new thing that has come into the situation to alter the future is the element of new knowledge. This is that the klan powers did not govern well. Their orators were stimulating. The old man used to talk intimately about God and seemed to vision him on the platform, upholding the shining sword of pure 100 per cent American government.

But that glamour is past. The aftermath has been sufficiently disillusioning. Steve is up in Michigan City making wicker chairs in a dusty old workshop, sitting under a guard with a loaded cane, still sending out to the people of Indiana, however, the messages of mystery that serve to keep his cause alive and foster a distinct lack of confidence in present officeholders who were once the beneficiaries of his power.

Indiana would like to forget "Steve" but cannot afford to do so for some time. It is no doubt true that the klan has lost most of its paying members, that it has dropped from 400,000 to anywhere from 20,000 to 40,000. It has split into factions and new organizations. It showed little power during the last legislature in getting through strictly klan measures, such as the Bible reading bill. But by combining its force with the drys under E. S. Shumaker, and with labor, all efforts to repeal or modify the direct primary law were blocked, and the dry law was tightened considerably.

True Klansmen in Country.

The true klansmen are in the rural districts, the skeleton organizations are kept up, meetings are held, and the field, though cut down and thinly sown, is there for the 1928 politicians who are already testing it out. Astute candidates for nomination in the gubernatorial primary next year will denounce neither klan nor dry movements. On the other hand, they are certain to avoid lauding the klan. It is even considered libelous to name a man as a klansman. This enters into the Dearth situation.

It entered into the last campaign with devastating effect, not only in Indiana, but in Missouri and Wisconsin. One of the strongest cards pulled out of the stack against Senator Jim Watson was the testimony of a klansman that Senator Watson had shown him a klan membership card, and back among the witnesses, when this testimony was given to the Reed committee, sat Walter Bossert, former high official in the national klan, who intimated that he had been ousted by the imperial wizard because he would not go down the line for Watson in the Indiana klan.

Senator Watson squeezed through, but today Walter Bossert is talked of as one of the next Republican candidates for the gubernatorial nomination in this state. He has formed a new group and his candidacy was discussed at an organization dinner during the legislative session.

So the klan must remain the X quantity in the situation for a year or more.

Regular G. O. P. Organization.

What has succeeded the klan in power is the regular Republican organization, but it cannot be called a klan organization, for it was there long before Steve came to ask admission to these ranks, and the voting records show that the Stephenson klan was distinctly by partisan.

Ku Klux Klan - 1927.

Indiana.

GHOST OF KLAN SEEN IN LATEST INDIANA TANGLE

Governor Asked to Probe Appropriation Error.

Indianapolis, Ind., March 24.—[Special.]—Accompanied by F. Harold Vau Orman, lieutenant governor, a committee of state senators called on Gov. Ed Jackson today to consider an official senatorial investigation of the "lost" amendments to the biennial appropriation bill which imperil the validity of the measure.

The senators were Edward O'Rourke, Ft. Wayne; James J. Nejdl, Whiting; Alonzo Lindley, Kingman; Denver C. Harlan, Richmond; J. Monroe Fitch, Muncie, Republicans, and Joseph M. Cravens, Madison, and Curtis Shake, Vincennes, Democrats.

A Strange Notation.

Earlier in the day Senator O'Rourke, who is co-author of one of the missing amendments, conferred with Mrs. Ella Doyle, a former employé of the house engrossing room. He discussed with her the penciled notation. "Do not insert, by order of Mr. Leslie," which appeared on the "lost amendment."

Harry G. Leslie of LaFayette, speaker of the house, has admitted that he asked that the amendment be held up until he and Samuel J. Farrell of Hartford City, chairman of the house ways and means committee, could study it. This amendment sought to separate appropriations for the school for feeble minded youth at Fort Wayne from the farm colony for feeble minded at Butlerville. Although approved by the senate and concurred in by the house, it does not appear in the enrolled act as signed by Gov. Jackson.

Advised by Governor.

Gov. Jackson recommended in his biennial message that the farm colony be abandoned, and James Jackson, the governor's brother, appointed by him as superintendent of the school for feeble minded youth, is said to have favored the consolidation of the two institutions.

Senators Lochard and C. Oliver Holmes (Gary) today served official notices warning them that any expenditures paid out of the appropriation for the Fort Wayne and Butlerville institutions in violation of the terms of the amendment, would be paid at risk of the official permitting the expenditures.

One senator today asserted there was a fear that a real estate deal in Fort Wayne was involved in the proposal to abandon the farm colony and merge it with the Fort Wayne institution, and hinted that if Gov. Jackson did not call a special session to untangle the situation, the senate might invite the house to meet to "investigate this affair and other matters that should be investigated."

KLAN, DRY LEAGUE RUMBLES STILL WRACK INDIANA

Stephenson, Shumaker Cases Tear State.

BY PHILIP KINSLEY.

Indianapolis, Ind., March 14.—[Special.]—While political attention is centered just now on the impeachment trial of Circuit Judge Clarence W. Dearth of Muncie at a special session of the senate next week, two situations in the background remain to be cleared before things settle into any normal condition in which 1928 prospects may be forecast with any degree of certainty.

Indiana's sky was red last fall with a bonfire of charges about invisible government, secret bargains with the Ku Klux Klan, and widespread corruption in office. This has now thinned down to a smoke almost as etherial as that in McCutcheon's Indiana summer cartoon.

What has happened to the great conspiracy which D. C. Stephenson, former grand dragon of the klan and political boss, was about to unfold in the hectic days of October?

What of the grand jury and the legislature and all the investigations started? That is one thing that will not down.

Await Shumaker Decision.

Another situation, unrelated except as it bears on the political temper in the state, is that involved in the contempt charges brought by Attorney General Arthur L. Gilliom against E. S. Shumaker, superintendent of the Anti-Saloon league, before the Supreme court of the state. This has been pending in the Supreme court since last July. A decision is expected at any time. Mr. Shumaker is the boss of the drys in a dry state. If he is cast into a dungeon some interesting developments will follow.

Spectacular events, crusades, exposes, lurid charges, flash cometlike across the Indiana horizon and then disappear, fade into the light of common day.

What Politicians Are Doing.

What has happened is that the politicians, who work all the time and know precisely where they are going, divert the bolts, diffuse the warm popular interest and energy, salt things down in cross sectional group fields, and go on their way. They represent themselves. The Onward Christian penciled scrawl listing the things he could prove against various state officials if he were given a chance. He spoke of checks and documents, photostats of signed agreements with high persons unnamed in which they agreed to do the bidding of the klan as their first duty after getting into office.

This fell into the hands of a fire eating, old fashioned country editor, Tom Adams of old Vincennes, respected and feared as a crusader throughout his part of the state. He became convinced that Stephenson had the material for a great campaign to rescue the state, and started out earnestly and hastily, before he had any further evidence.

As the fall campaign was coming on, the Democrats greeted this furore with great glee, raised hands in holy horror, and proceeded to instigate new scandal and rumors when the first bolt seemed in danger of dying from lack of nourishment.

Charge Graft in Roads.

Members of the state highway commission had been indicted during the Stephenson régime in 1925 on charges that they had connived with junk dealers to steal government property. They claimed that Stephenson framed this indictment in order to get rid of them because they stood in the way of Stephenson and his gang getting control of road contracts worth $15,000,000 a year.

While everything else in the way of chrges and counter-charges has melted into air and talk, this latter statement seems to be substantiated. About the only result of the long investigation that followed the Stephenson letter has been the dismissal recently of those indictments against the highway commissioners. County Prosecutor William H. Remy moved to nolle prosse because there was no evidence to support the indictments. Adams was a friend of these commissioners, and so won this part of his fight.

But all the rest fizzled. Adams and his editorial co-workers made charges on the strength of their belief that Stephenson would talk if given an opportunity. Stephenson said all he wanted was a chance to tell the truth. The governor, the attorney general, the prosecutor, and everybody said that he should have the chance, and a special grand jury was called to listen to him in secret.

In the meantime there had been some peculiar maneuvering at the prison. The first man to be given a private audience with Stephenson was John J. Maroney, special agent of the department of justice, known as one of Senator Jim Watson's appointees. Then some attorneys appeared, supposedly anxious to help Steve. Maroney has recently been appointed special federal prohibition investigator in this district.

Stephenson appeared before the grand jury and refused to talk. There was a great scramble to find out what papers and documents of an incriminating nature he had, if any, and where they were. Witnesses appeared who told of checks they had seen in Stephenson's jail cell and a trunk full of photostats. Stephenson's former partner disappeared for a month. Women bobbed up mysteriously with keys to phantom safety deposit boxes. Stephenson said nothing more.

The grand jury had nothing but secondary evidence. After being in session from Oct. 11 to Dec. 27 they reported progress, recommended that the next jury take it up, and passed out. The grand jury, composed of six men, was divided 4 to 2 on this kind of a report. Mr. Remy, Attorney General Gilliom, Attorney Ralph K. Kane, and Attorney Fred Gause all sat in on the inquiry.

The present grand jury inherited this job. It has been engaged in routine matters. The prosecutor, Mr. Remy, is still determined to press the matter, but it is predicted generally that he cannot get far, as Stephenson still is maintaining silence and the mysterious documents have never been found.

Will File New Appeal.

Stephenson has one appeal before the state Supreme court on a technicality, and is planning to file a general appeal before March 25. If the Supreme court fails to let him out his only recourse is a pardon from Gov. Jackson.

The same legislature which voted an impeachment of Judge Dearth refused to take up the challenge of the Stephenson investigation.

They voted on this strictly as a party measure, even the dry and klan Republicans refusing to join the Democrats in starting new trouble without concrete evidence. The vote was 61 to 36 against the investigation.

Representative Glenn Harris, chairman of the judiciary committee, recently offered to reopen the matter if Adams would submit any evidence.

Stephenson in all this has been playing solely for his own interests. He wants to get out of prison. His silence may have been bought with promises, or he may have been staging a great hoax. Indiana would like to know.

Mr. Shumaker's trouble arises purely from attending to his business, that of keeping Indiana as dry as possible, even if he has to try and intimidate a few Supreme court judges in their opinions.

A year ago Mr. Gilliom brought his contempt charges, based on remarks made about members of the court in the annual report of the league. Six prominent lawyers were named as friends of the court to pass on the contempt question. Five of them decided that the article was contemptuous in nature. No recommendation for punishment was made. The court has had this under advisement since July 15 last. In the meantime, Justice Eubanks retired and was succeeded by Justice Martin, and Justice Travis was reëlected.

Tried to Defeat Travis.

Mr. Shumaker put forth valiant efforts to defeat Travis, making speeches in churches of the district and using all the strength he could muster. Travis won by 35,000 votes.

It is expected in some quarters that now the legislature has adjourned that the court will act. Shumaker's friends think it might not be a bad way to solidify and arouse the dry sentiment to have Shumaker made a martyr and sent to jail, and that perhaps this is the reason the court has hesitated so long.

NEW YORK TIMES
JUN 23 1927

A GOOD BEGINNING.

Indianapolis, which has had more than its share of corrupt machine politics, has taken a step toward better government by voting to adopt the city manager system. Although the vote was light, as is customary in special elections, the odds of victory were overwhelming—swelled by the fact that a few days previously the Klansman Mayor, JOHN L. DUVALL, was indicted for conspiracy to commit a felony in connection with his campaign fund returns.

Not until 1930 will the new system be installed, and certain changes in the State laws supervising city management must make their way through the politician-beset Legislature before a workable plan can be evolved. Also, the Klan politicians who control the Republican city machine will make the same fight to elect the seven City Commissioners, who are to serve under the new plan, that they have made

successfully in Mayoralty elections; and the friends of good government who won the victory yesterday will have to overcome that obstacle when the time comes. But, even if they are balked in the Legislature in their effort to give wider powers to the City Manager, and then are defeated on the commissionerships, they will at least have the newer form of government and can work for victory later on. If the performances of recent Indianapolis Mayors linger in the minds of resentful voters until 1930, the citizens will be able to make their triumph complete.

As usual, despite the efforts of respectable colored people in the city and from elsewhere to win members of their race over to the new idea, the negro wards voted strongly with the machine. It is largely a Klan machine, but its klannishness is not directed against negroes, and colored politicians have been kept in line for many years past. Since 1891, when the negro influx to Indianapolis was first stimulated by Republican city politicians, the Democrats have held the Mayor's office for a total of less than ten years. Among the Republican incumbents have been such personages as LEW SHANK the auctioneer, and the present executive, who was elected as the Klan candidate on a straight-out issue affecting that organization. His indictment has come on the charge that, with the connivance of his brother-in-law, another city official, the Mayor omitted a large contribution to his campaign from his sworn statement.

Though the city management plan adoption is only the beginning of the move toward better government for Indianapolis, with a population of nearly 400,000, and though it has many difficulties yet to surmount, it is the first move made by that city in recent years to escape from its morass of rotten politics. As such, it is heartening to the friends of self-government everywhere.

GOODBYE NIGHTSHIRT!

Indianapolis, sickened by the kind of government it has been getting from the Kluxers, has just voted to change form rather than endure them. When Indiana, once the stronghold of the Klan, gives up hope, when it turns its face away from the wan and wasted form of what was once an all-powerful organization, when the Invisible Empire becomes invisible indeed, it is "goodbye nightshirt!",

The Call is a very young newspaper, yet it has lived long enough to see the waxing and waning of the Ku Klux Klan. Early in its rennaissance, we predicted that it would defeat itself. It was not thinkable that a country blessed with constitutional government, with provisions for the expression of the people's will, would exchange it for secret control by any group. As time went on, leader after leader of the Klan proved by his private life that the high flown professions of Americanism, of respect for law, of protection for women, were just words. State after state convicted until even Indiana had to sentence Stephenson, its K. K. K. king.

Now Indianapolis turns from the whole Klan idea, and arranges to get back its orderly government by changing its charter. It is creditable to men that they aspire to betterment, but they need to mix in with their thinking good common sense enough to remember they are beneficiaries of all their fathers have experienced. Mushroom political organizations with untried policies, are foredoomed, not because their originators lack good intent, but because human nature is the product of thousands of years, and betterment is a growth not a revolution. The passing of the Klan is no surprise. Indianapolis' act proves it is dead.

INDIANA KLAN FOE EDITOR PAROLED BY THE GOVERNOR

Dale Escapes Contempt Sentence Term.

Indianapolis, Ind., July 15.—[Special.]—Following verbatim the recommendation of the trustees of the Indiana state farm, Gov. Ed Jackson today granted a parole to George R. Dale, Muncie editor and anti-klan publisher, who faced a ninety day sentence to the state farm for contempt of court imposed by Judge Clarence W. Dearth of the Delaware county court.

The parole to Dale is "under the usual conditions." This means his fine of $500 must be paid at once; that he will remain under supervision of officials of the state farm for the time of the parole, and that he must go through the formality of being committed to the institution and spend a nominal time there as a prisoner.

Then he will be liberated immediately. Gov. Jackson said he would issue the formal order of parole when Dale meets the "usual conditions."

Supported by Home Citizens.

Dale's plea before the board for a pardon was supported by citizens from his home city. The plea to the governor, which was referred by him to the trustees, followed unsuccessful appeals to the Indiana Supreme court and the United States Supreme court, although that in the latter was dismissed by Dale's own counsel.

The sentence imposed on Dale grew out of an article in Dale's paper, the Muncie Post-Democrat, concerning alleged political corruption and klan intrigue control in Delaware county politics. Many of the things alleged in Dale's paper were rehearsed in the trial last spring of Judge Dearth himself on impeachment charges before the state senate. Impeachment failed by a slight margin of votes.

Three trustees voted for the parole, while one voted against it. Dale probably will make his formal trip to the state farm next week.

Dale Comments About Outcome.

Muncie, Ind., July 15.—[Special.]—George Dale professed pleasure today at the outcome of his three year fight. Referring to the failure of the remission of the fine of $500, Dale remarked: "I guess it is a kind of Scotch verdict. I know the powerful pressure brought to bear on the board to have me serve the sentence, and I suppose the trustees did about the best they could under the circumstances."

Dale is continuing publication of his weekly paper and is as outspoken as ever about public affairs.

Indiana Klan Paid Money To Negro Paper, Charge

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind.—In a copyrighted story published Wednesday the Indianapolis Times, in its expose of Klan domination of Indiana, tells how the Indianapolis Ledger, a Negro weekly newspaper received money from the klan for its support of Governor Ed. Jackson in the last election.

Facsimiles of checks said to have been given the Ledger by D. C. Stephenson, former klan leader, now serving a life sentence for the murder of a girl, are reproduced. Stephenson is said to have indicated that in the battle for "white supremacy" in Indiana, the klan used the Ledger for publicity among Negroes. The Ledger is now out of business.

RACE PAPER INVOLVED IN KLAN PROBE

Indianapolis Ledger Said To Have Been Used In Effort For "White Rule' In Indiana.

INDIANAPOLIS, July 13. —(Special) How the Ku Klux Klan fought its battle for "white supremacy" in Indiana by financing a Race was told by the Indianapolis Times Wednesday.

Involve Ledger.

The Times, a Scripps-Howard newspaper, printed a third copyrighted story and reproduced copyrighted checks and notations, included among the treasures yielded by "the little black box" of D. C. Stephenson former Klan grand dragon.

Stephenson was quoted as saying he gave the checks to the Indianapolis Ledger, Race weekly, for publicity for Gov. Ed. Jackson during his primary campaign.

Received $1320.

The Times printed copies of the originals of four checks. They were made out to W. H. (Big Jack) Jackson, owner of the Ledger, and were for $320, $600, $200 and $200.

The notations by Stephenson were made while he was awaiting sentence to life imprisonment for the murder of Madge Oberholtzer.

Remembers One Check

The notations were on the same general purport—that the money represented by the checks was paid to the Ledger or its owner for Gov. Jackson's publicity.

"Big Jack" Jackson said he remembered the $600 check, but could not recall the others.

"It was paid for papers or publicity or something to help Gov. Jackson, but I am quite sure I did nothing to incriminate myself,' the Times quoted him as saying.

Prosecutor Silent

A policy of official silence appeared to have been adopted by Prosecutor William H. Remy regarding the disclosures.

The check which started the serial publication of original documents in possession of the Times, was signed by Stephenson in the days that he personified the political of the Klan as its leader.

Ku Klux Klan - 1927

Indiana.

KLAN RIOT IS FEARED IN INDIANAPOLIS, IND.

INDIANAPOLIS, Aug. 3. —A Klu Klux Klan parade routed near the nights of Columbus home and scheduled through the Indianapolis Hebrew Congregation as well as traverse a portion of the Race district is expected to cause trouble here Saturday night.

Permission for the parade was granted today by Chief of Police Claude F. Johnson, acknowledged member of the order.

GRAFT IN INDIANA UNDER JURY PROBE

Evidence From Famous Black Boxes Of Ex-Klan Chief Stephenson Submitted

INDIANAPOLIS, IND., July 27—(AP) The Marion county grand jury today directed its investigation of alleged political corruption in Indiana toward the activities of the 1925 general assembly—the last to meet before D. C. Stephenson went to prison to serve a life term for murder.

At Stephenson's trial for the murder of Miss Madge Oberholtzer of Indianapolis, testimony was given that the former grand dragon of the Ku Klux Klan was "the law in Indiana" and had dominated the 1925 legislature. Employes of his office and others said they had seen many of the legislators in Stephenson's office at one time or another.

State Senator Fred M. Dickerman and State Representative Walker De Haven and Russell V. Duncan, all of Marion county and elected on the republican ticket, were before the grand jury today. Duncan was closeted with the inquisitorial body for a lengthy period. None of the witnesses could comment after being excused from the grand jury room.

Evidence taken from Stephenson's famous black boxes was turned over to the grand jury today by Prosecutor William H. Remy and his special assistants. The prosecutor a few days ago obtained possession of the material which Stephenson has said will prove that high office holders in Indiana engaged in political deals with him in the last five or six years. A suitcase filled with the documents was placed before the grand jurors.

The jury held a lengthy session today, but would not say whether the session would end Friday as scheduled or would continue until the graft charges had been completely threshed out.

"BLACK BOXES" YIELD SECRETS OF KLAN CHIEF

Cancelled Checks for $24,000 and $21,000 Prove Business Was Done on Big Scale.

10,000 LETTERS PART OF EXHIBIT

Photographs of Many National Political Celebrities Are Found Among Effects of Stephenson.

Indianapolis, Ind., July 25.—(AP)—The contents of D. C. Stephenson's black boxes, which he has said will substantiate his charges of political corruption in Indiana, today were spread before the eyes of William H. Remy, Marion county prosecutor, and his special assistants, who have been investigating the alleged irregular relationship between the former Ku Klux Klan leader and certain public officials and politicians.

Gratified and enthusiastic over what their find contained, the special prosecutors dug into the mass of bank books, check stubs, telegrams, photographs, a Marion county deputy sheriff's badge and klan papers which were included in the material, but their only comment was that the documents were "valuable."

10,000 Letters.

The two boxes and some 10,000 letters were turned over to Emsley W. Johnson, special assistant to Remy, near Washington, Ind., last Saturday by L. G. Julian, former business associate of Stephenson, acting on orders from the former grand dragon who is serving a life term in Indiana state prison at Michigan City. Johnson brought them to Indianapolis today and they were opened at Remy's home.

"Things were not done on a cheap scale," Johnson commented as he inspected two cancelled checks for $24,000 and $21,000 respectively. Remy, with what looked like a typewritten contract in his hand, said that "that will line up the whole business."

Autographed Photos.

Included in the material was a large photograph with the signature of Governor Ed Jackson. The prosecutor said personally autographed photographs of many national political figures also were found among Stephenson's effects.

Two Marion county grand juries have investigated the charges of irregularities in state politics. The first failed to return indictments; the second was discharged when allegations were made that it had been tampered with. The present grand jury will end its session Friday unless held over by special request. Judge James A. Collins, of criminal court, announced today that he would give additional instructions to the jury tomorrow but whether he will advice further investigations of the Stephenson charges is not known. Remy, however, indicated today that he had something tangible on which to work.

NEGRO IS KILLED AFTER SHOOTING FOUR POLICEMEN

Evansville, Ind., September 5.—(AP) Wesley Cooksey, crazed negro who shot four police officers here this afternoon from his barricaded home, was dragged dead from the house at 8:10 o'clock tonight after officers had set fire to the home and then poured volley after volley of rifle bullets into the blazing building.

The wounded included Chief of Police Harry Anderson and Chief of Detectives Howard Sutheimer, with Sutheimer and Patrolman Langford probably fatally hurt.

The police attempted to arrest Harry Johnson, negro, after he had threatened to kill his wife. Reserves were called for before another rush at the barricaded house was made.

SLEUTH FINDS "BLACK" KLAN IN GARY, IND.

Order Auxiliary Of White K. K. K. Termed Bow Tie Amalgamation

ALDERMEN REPORTED MEMBERS OF "BOW TIE"

Mayor Promises To Scrap $15,000 School Program In Favor Of $700,000

GARY, IND.—Affidavits have been secured here proving the existence of an order here known as the Bow Tie Amalgamation, or Black Ku Klux Klan Auxiliary of a faction of the white K. K. K.

Mayor Writes

The city of Gary does not intend to go ahead with a plan that would result in the segregation of colored pupils in high schools it was asserted yesterday in a letter signed with the name of Mayor Floyd E. William of Gary, and made public by Mr. Bruseaux.

In his communication the mayor stated that he would advise the city council at its next meeting to rescind the ordinance appropriating $15,000 for a temporary colored school, passed while the students of the Emerson school were on the strike against the presence of colored pupils.

Injunction

The mayor added that this action would automatically do away with injunction suits now pending to prevent the erection of the temporary structure. Colored students would continue to attend all the schools "in reasonable amount," he continued. The letter also contained a promise that a $700,000 school would be built in less than two years for pupils on the south side, where most of the colored folk live.

Findings

Bruseaux in his probe discovered that some leading colored citizens had for the past two years urged the school board to build Jim Crow schools.

The three race councilmen agreed in favor to the $15,000 separate school but in a public meeting the next day, Sept. 22, fought it bitterly, the detective says.

Klan Members

Affidavits declare members of the Bow Tie Amalgamation include William Burrus and Samuel Blackwell, aldermen; Roger Woodfork, an attorney; Wm. Elston, deputy constable, and Lewis Spinling, Asst. fire marshall.

Several Thousand Members

The "Bow Tie" is granted as having several thousand members in Indiana and plans a national campaign for members.

Franklin T. Fetterer, white, is quoted as telling colored folk they could become only 97 1-3 per cent American because the white K. K. K. stood for white supremacy.

Preachers, Professional Men

Preachers, professional men and laborers were used by the white order, the report states, to enforce the Gary administration. These people were given money to meet current expenses. Whites secured allies also by political favors, immunities, privileges and promises, the report adds.

Opinion

Cause of the Gary school strike was the sudden transfer of 18 colored children from Froebel to Emerson High School.

Bruseaux reports his opinion that this was done to create public sentiment in favor of a bond issue for $750,000 to erect a colored school. School funds to this amount were already appropriated, but the city had decided to build a white school (Horace Mann) first and use this money.

THE BLACK KLAN FOUND IN GARY BY PRIVATE SLEUTH

Two Of Three Aldermen Are Accused Of Being Members Of "Bow Tie" Group

Sheridan A. Brusseaux, of the Keystone Detective Agency, who has just completed an investigation in regards to the recent Gary school strike, finds and reports that a sinister political figure has been lurking in the background of the affair. Mr. Brusseaux reveals and discloses in his report, information that will throw consternation and disgust into the fight against segregation in Gary. His investigation lays bare the "Bow Tie Amalgamation" which is averred to be affiliated with the local Ku Klux Klan and is popularly known as the Black Klan. This organization it is said functions for the political benefit of the K. K. K. and lists among its members some of Gary's most prominent citizens.



Mr. Brusseaux

Aldermen Members

Membership roster of the Black K. K K. revealed the names of Alderman William Burrus and Alderman S. R. Blackwell as well as Attorney L. W.

(Turn to Page 5, Col. 1)

THE BLACK KLAN FOUND IN GARY BY PRIVATE SLEUTH

Two Of Three Aldermen Accused Of Being Members Of 'Bow Tie' Group

Spurling, who is president of the local branch of the N. A. A. C. P. Franklin Federer, white politician in Gary, has been active in securing the membership of the black people and it is claimed that in many of his speeches that he told his hearers that they could be ninety-seven and one tenth per cent Americans but never "one hundred per cent Americans" as were the white klansmen. It is reported further that on the night of September 22nd, the three colored aldermen met in the city hall in Gary and agreed to support the proposed Jim Crow school resolution but changed their minds the next day wher the council voted on the issue before the public

Preachers Get Money

Rev. McHenry, pastor of a church in the steel city is charged with having been visited by the Klan in full regalia and that he was given four hundred and fifty dollars to pay off his church mortgage. Four other ministers are also charged with affiliation with the klan. Alderman Whitlock of Gary is credited with being clear of the taint of the klan and is given credit of being straight forward in his dealings but the other representatives in the city council of Gary are accused of being tied up with Ralph Bradford, who is said to be one of the leading figures among the members of the fiery cross and whitehood. Because of their seven thousand votes in Gary, the colored people wield the balance of power politically and it is for this reason that the Klan interested itself in affiliating with the "Bow Tie Amalgamation." Mr. Brusseaux states Mayor Floyd Williams of Gary is beginning to understand just what the school strike is all about and it is to be expected that the whole situation will be adjusted It is not believed that the National Branch of the N. A. A. C. P. is in possession of the facts or that it is in support of the Black Klansmen but that it is well settled that Attorney Spurling who holds the position of fire marshall by virtue of his political affiliations, is a bona fide member of the Black K. K. K. or perhaps the "Bow Tie Amalgamation."

BLACK KLAN REVEALED BY SCHOOL FIGHT

Gary Citizens Shocked by Disclosure

Startling charges that an organization existing in Gary, Ind., known secretly as the "Black Ku Klux Klan," have just come to light through the sworn statements of certain Race citizens of Gary who recently revealed the amazing information to investigators probing the recent strike by white students of the Emerson high school.

According to the sworn statements made to the investigators, headed by Sheridan A. Bruseaux of the Keystone Detective agency, the alleged Klan organization, said to be fostered by a group of Race ministers and politicians, came secretly into being in October, 1925.

97 Per Cent Americans

At that time the alleged "Black Ku Klux Klan" met at different times in the offices of a prominent physician and an attorney for organization purposes. To one of the meetings, the informant asserts, many visitors were brought by one of Gary's councilmen to be lectured to by the city's chief deputy prosecuting attorney on "100 Per Cent Americanism."

During his lecture the speaker is said to have told those present that there were no 100 per cent Americans; that the white man came first and the black man next, and the latter could only attain 97 per cent Americanism. The speaker is said to have further asserted that "If you people become members of this noble

BLACK KLAN REVEALED BY SCHOOL FIGHT

Gary Citizens Shocked by Disclosure

order it will mean a closer relationship between the white and black races in Gary." The audience was told that it would be so arranged and fixed that they would know each other in the dark and they would always be recognized and honored as members of the Ku Klux Klan.

The joining fee was $10 and this money was for the purpose of furthering the cause and for the upbuilding of the order, it was stated. The attorney added that the present administration in Gary was a Klan one and that if any political favors were desired, that none but members of the organization would be favored.

Meet in Churches

After concluding his speech he asked for converts and many in the audience joined, the informant declared. Other meetings were held at churches pastored by two of Gary's leading Race ministers, it was said, and at various times between the dates of the meetings agents of the Race were out on the street soliciting memberships secretly, the investigators were informed. Soon after the organization of the Klan movement, it is said to have reached a membership of 100.

Police protection was promised all Race citizens of Gary who joined the Black K. K. K., it was stated, and those who remained outside were subjected to police tyranny. "You must join a 'certain organization' if you want to receive any consideration," citizens were informed by the political boss of the administration, it was stated, and they were told that the "certain organization" was the Black Ku Klux Klan.

Supporters of the administration who refused to join the "certain organization," in their efforts to go about their daily work, met with defeat at the hands of the police who kicked their doors down, arresting them in their homes on false charges. They were seldom found guilty of the preferred charges because of the fairness of Judge C. M. Greenlee, it was stated. Appeals to the aldermen for relief from alleged police oppression were in vain, according to the informer's statement.

Klan Bribes Preachers

According to the report of the investigator bearing on the Gary school strike, a secret meeting was held by city council members at the city hall Sept. 21 shortly after the Emerson high school strike.

At this meeting it was suggested and agreed by all the aldermen present, including the three Race councilmen, according to the report, that $15,000 be appropriated for the erection of a temporary high school building for the unwelcome students of Emerson.

Then on Sept. 22, Mayor Floyd E. Williams of Gary, in keeping with the alleged agreement said to have been made between the aldermen on the night of Sept. 21, recommended to the council the appropriation of the $15,000. But on the night of the 22d at the public meeting of the city council, the three aldermen fought bitterly to defeat the recommendation notwithstanding their former support of the measure, the investigator's report states.

Further investigations revealed, according to the report, that the white Ku Klux Klan has been giving Race ministers money with which to meet their current expenses, and that political favors, privileges, immunities and promises have been the bait that the political boss and his agents have used in securing allies of the Race.

KU KLUX KLAN AND PROGRESS

The people, even those who are not possessed of even average intelligence, are beginning to see the Ku Klux Klan in its true light. It has been plain from the beginning that the Klan appealed to, and was made up of, the backward intellectual elements of native white American stock, North and South. The backward element among native whites is larger than is generally supposed to be the case. It is this element that propagates prejudice on grounds of race, religion and scientific research and investigation.

In Indiana, the Klan has brought corruption and bribery in its train In Georgia and Alabama, it has brought violence and barbarity. In all these states, the substantial elements are struggling mightily, and with apparent success, to meet an ugly situation brought on by low grade morons.

The Mayor of Indianapolis has been convicted of violating the corrupt practices laws of Indiana, this form of corruption being laid at the door of the Klan. The governor of the state, Ed Jackson Klansman, is under indictment Former Governor McCray is just home from a term in the Atlanta penitentiary. While McCray has not been charged with Klan affiliations, he never showed any unfriendly disposition toward the organization.

It is in the natural order of things that the Klan should be corrupt in Indiana, and violent and barbarous in Alabama and Georgia. Indiana is historically notorious for its lust of two-dollar bills, the price of votes in that state nearly fifty years ago, and its "blocks of five," the combination in which voters organized to sell their birthright.

Georgia and Alabama have always been given to violence and barbarity. They maintained, until forced to abandon it, the institution of slavery which permitted the whipping of women. That they still whip women in those states is but a reversion to ancestral type. There are good people in both states—good white people and good black people—but unfortunately much of the good among the whites is subordinate to bad among them, which keeps them from recognizing in any concrete way the goodness among black people.

The degradation to which the Klan is leading the white people may serve, however, to force the white man to understand that he is in no basic respect different from, or better than, men of other races and colors. A lesson of this kind is much needed. As a matter of fact, progress is dependent upon a realization of this truth.

Ku Klux Klan - 1927.

Indiana.

James Weldon Johnson in Gary Talk Says G. O. P. Is Controlled by Klan

Calls Hooded Order the Most Dangerous Enemy of the Negro in America and Must Be Fought to a Finish

James Weldon Johnson, secretary of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, who has just returned from a midwestern speaking tour, reports learning in Gary, Indiana that, although the City Council was forced by N. A. A. C. P. court action to abandon its projected $15,000 segregated high school, the Ku Klux Klan is pla ng still other meaures to harass the Negro citizens. At a meeting in Gary Mr. Johnson urged the Negro voters to down the Klan-controlled Republican party of the Mr. Johnson in his Gary address said in part:

"I have learned since I have been here in Gary that the forces motivated by the Ku Klux Klan are determined to bring about complete segregation in the public schools of Gary. And the Klan will not stop short of any effort to down the Negro.

"It is up to the colored people of Gary to realize that the Klan is the most dangerous and active enemy of the Negro in America. And they must fight that organization to a finish. They should realize that many of the menacing incidents now arising in northern communities are due to the secret and underhanded plotting of the Klan.

"Here in Indiana the Klan is making the Republican party its instrument. It is therefore up to the common-sense, if nothing more, of the colored people of Indiana to vote to defeat the Klan-controlled Republican influences of the State."

JOHNSON URGES GARY BLACKS TO OUST KLUXERS

New York City.—James Weldon Johnson, secretary of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, who has just returned to the national office, 69 Fifth Avenue, from a mid-Western speaking tour, reports learning in Gary, Ind., that although the city council was forced by N. A. A. C. P. court action to abandon its projected $15,000 segregated high school, the Ku Klux Klan is planning still other measures to harass the Negro citizens. At a public meeting held in Gary, Mr. Johnson urged the colored voters of Gary to down the klan-controlled Republican party of the state. Mr. Johnson, in his Gary address, said in part:

"Through the prompt and determined action of the local branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People and the national office, the plan of the Gary city council to appropriate $15,000 for a jim-crow high school has been defeated. The mayor himself acknowledges that the steps taken in the courts by the N. A. A. C. P. have outlawed the proposed action of the city authorities. This first victory however, is not the end but the beginning of the fight. I have learned since I have been here in Gary that the forces motivated by the Ku Klux Klan are determined to bring about complete segregation in the public schools of Gary. And the klan will not stop short of any effort to down the Negro.

"It is up to the colored people of Gary to realize that the klan is the most dangerous and active enemy of the Negro in America. And they must fight that organization to a finish. They should realize that many of the menacing incidents now arising in Northern communities are due to the secret and underhanded plotting of the klan.

"Here in Indiana the klan is making the Republican party its instrument. It is therefore up to the common sense, if nothing else, of the colored people of Indiana to vote to defeat the klan-controlled Republican influenses of the state.

"I would hazard a guess that there are as many Negroes in Gary as there are bona fide members of the klan. The difference being that the klan is better organized. The battle being waged for the Negro on this issue by the N. A. A. C. P. is just and must command the whole-hearted and united support of both white and colored people who hold their citizenship and their government above the unscrupand often criminal groups of thugs." ulous designs of masked, anonymou-

Ku Klux Klan — 1927.

Iowa.

FIERY CROSS IS BURNED IN YARD OF PROFESSOR

Employment of Negress as Teacher to Succeed White Woman Charged

DES MOINES, Jan. 3.—(AP)—Deputy sheriffs were stationed at Carney, near here late today, when a fiery cross was burned in the front yard of Jesse Burrell, school director and justice of the peace, who hired Faye Jeffers, negress, as a successor to a white school teacher. Carney is a small mining community.

Negro leaders here threatened through the newspapers that negroes of Des Moines would descend on the town to protect the negress and Mr. Burrell, if the sheriff's office did not take adequate precautions.

HIRING OF A TEACHER CAUSES KLAN FLARE-UP

DES MOINES, Ia., Jan. 5 — Deputy sheriffs are watching Carney, mining town, where a fiery cross was burned last week in front of the home of Jesse Burrell, colored school director, who appointed Miss Faye Jeffers, colored to succeed a white school teacher.

Burrell's daughter, Mrs. Calvin Rice, is also on the school board.

Race leaders regard it as a test case.

SHOTS MARK KLAN SESSION.

Des Moines Affray Is Investigated—Evans Assails Governor Smith.

DES MOINES, Iowa, July 26 (AP).—Reports of an exchange of shots by Ku Klux Klansmen and unidentified assailants enlivened the opening here today of a State meeting of the Klan. The Police Department is investigating the report of the shooting and officers of the Klan also were conducting an inquiry. Information had not revealed the identity of the persons reported to have fired upon a group of Klan campers at the State Fair Grounds last night.

Approximately twenty-five shots were fired, Klan officials said, while a hundred Klansmen were meeting to discuss business to come before the State meeting. Guards posted about the meeting returned the fire. No one was reported injured.

The State meeting was called to outline a program for the organizatio nfor the coming year. Hiram Evans, Imperial Wizard, indicated that politics might receive some attention from the Klansmen, as individuals at least, when he issued a statement attacking Governor Smith of New York. He declared Governor Smith "is seeking to nullify the Eighteenth Amendment, to foster the ideas of Tammany Hall and to bring religion into politics." The Imperial Wizard commended the Coolidge Administration for its economy program.

Ku Klux Klan - 1927

Kansas.

KLAN LOSES ITS APPEAL AGAINST KANSAS OUSTER

Washington, D. C., Feb. 24.—(AP)— The Ku Klux Klan today lost in the Supreme court its claim of the right to carry on activities in any state without obtaining permission from the state.

The question reached the court from Kansas in an appeal by the Georgia Klan corporation, which sought to conduct its activities there without obtaining permission as required by the Kansas law relating to corporations organized in other states.

Not Necessary to Hear State.

Questioning of John S. Dean, counsel for the klan, by the members of the court during his argument was followed by Chief Justice Taft's announcement that the counsel for the state would not have to be heard, as the court was without jurisdiction in the case. An order giving effect to the court's decision to dismiss the appeal will shortly be announced, probably Monday.

Mr. Dean emphasized the importance of the controversy from the viewpoint of the Ku Klux Klan and declared that it wanted to contest the right of any state to exclude it as a foreign corporation. He asserted that every citizen and corporation in the United States had that right under the federal constitution.

Disagree with Klan Statement.

Members of the court declined to agree with him and expressed their views to the contrary. These were summarized by Justice McReynolds, who demanded that Dean state the grounds for claiming such a right. He replied that every corporation, including the klan, was guaranteed by the federal constitution rights of free speech, a free press, and to conduct propaganda.

Chief Justice Taft then interjected that no corporation had the right to go into a state without its permission unless engaged in interstate commerce. Dean, however, contended that the klan was engaged in such commerce.

Klan Must Get State Permits to Operate; Supreme Court Dismisses Kansas Ban Appeal

KLAN FILES BRIEF

Hooded Order Opposes Ouster Proceedings by Kansas

WASHINGTON, Feb. 18.—(AP)—The Knights of the Ku Klux Klan filed in the supreme court today a supplemental brief to be used when its appeal to prevent being ousted from Kansas is reached for oral argument next week.

The Kansas courts held that the state law required the klan as a corporation to obtain permission before engaging in business in the state. The klan asserted that it is not doing business within the meaning of the Kansas law, but that being organized in Georgia exclusively for charitable purposes without capital stock or profit to its members, it can carry on its activities in Kansas without receiving permission from the state.

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In opening his argument Mr. Dean emphasized the importance of the controversy from the viewpoint of the Ku Klux Klan and declared that it wanted to contest the right of any State to exclude it as a foreign corporation. He asserted that every citizen and corporation of the United States had, under the Federal Constitution, the right which the Klan claimed.

Members of the Court declined to agree with him and expressed their views to the contrary.

Mr. Dean was asked to state the grounds for claiming such a right. He replied that the Federal Constitution guaranteed to every corporation, including the Klan, the rights of free speech, a free press and to conduct propaganda.

Chief Justice Taft then interjected that no corporation had the right to go into a State without its permission unless engaged in interstate commerce.

Mr. Dean, however, contended that the Klan was engaged in such commerce.

Members of the Court read from the records that the Klan had contested the Kansas law on the ground that it was not "doing business" in the State and could not, therefore, be required to comply with the Corporation law calling for it to obtain permission.

They wanted to know how the Klan could attack in the Federal Court a law on the ground that it was preventing the organization from engaging in interstate commerce after having contended in the State courts that it was not so functioning.

KLAN IS BEATEN IN SUPREME COURT

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K'S LOSE IN SUP. COURT

CANNOT ENTER ANY STATE WITHOUT THAT STATE'S CONSENT—NOT ENGAGED IN INTERSTATE COMMERCE — SUPREME COURT WITHOUT JURISDICTION

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K. K. K. LOSES IN U. S. COURT

WASHINGTON, Mar., 2. —The Ku Klux Klan Thursday lost in the Supreme Court its claim to the right to carry on activities in any State without obtaining permission from the State.

The question reached the Court from Kansas in an appeal by the Georgia Klan Corporation, which was excluded from that State when it sought to conduct its activities there without obtaining permission, as required by the Kansas law relating to corporations organized in other States.

THE KLAN APPEAL

The Ku Klux Klan lost its appeal to the United States Supreme Court from the Kansas law forbidding corporations from doing business in that state without first complying with the regulations of the State of Kansas law, relating to corporations organized in other states and desiring to do business in that state. The case was carried up by the Georgia Klan. This decision, the order for which detailing all of the legal points raised, has not been issued up to the time of writing this editorial, will have a rather wholesome effect in discouraging the aggressiveness of this now outlawed, pernicious, un-American organization, born in iniquity, nurtured in race hatreds and bred in the slums of prejudice, crime, violence and murder.

For the last few years the Supreme Court of public opinion has most emphatically decided against this hooded order, North as well as South. Last week the legislature of the State of North Carolina passed a bill barring the Klan and its illegal activities from that State. Texas, in both of its last gubernatorial elections went on record as against the Klan overwhelmingly. Indiana, former hot bed of its religious, political and social influence, shows marked symptoms of reforms. And so on throughout the country this most despicable of invisible empires is dying of ennui and repression. Soon, like its horrible predecessor of reconstruction times, the present Klan will be but a dreadful nightmare, a memory. But what memories it will leave to future generations—villainy, rapine, murder. Too long have the local and federal governments tolerated these hoodlums, this body of anarchists. If the State of Kansas has pointed the way for the respective states to rid themselves of this national peril, this nuisance, and the supreme court of the United States given its legal sanction, it is a national service worthy of commendation. Kansas again has written her fame lastingly and nobly upon the records as a State emblematic of justice, honor, integrity.

KLAN ASKS HALT ON OUSTER ORDER

Kansas Kleagles Want Injunction Protecting Life of State's Klaverns

TOPEKA, Sept. 26.—(AP)—The Ku Klux Klan filed application in the federal district court here today for an injunction restraining Governor Paulen and William A. Smith, attorney general, from enforcing the ouster order which the state obtained against the klan several years ago. This order was affirmed by the United States Supreme Court.

"While there is no pressing necessity for the filing of this suit at this time," said a statement issued by John S. Dean, attorney for the klan, "no effort is now being made by the state to enforce the judgment of ouster, nevertheless the head officers of the klan organization, desiring to be relieved from any criticism upon the ground that they were not respecting the judgment of our supreme court, insisted that the question of validity of the former judgment be formally and finally determined."

Advertiser
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Ku Klux Klan - 1927

Kentucky.

KLAN PARADES OUTLAWED

Pikeville, Kentucky Mayor Casts Deciding Vote Against Masking.

PINEVILLE, KY., Feb. 15.—(AP)—Ku Klux Klan parades in which marchers wore masks were outlawed here today, when the city council by a vote of 4 to 3 adopted an ordinance prohibiting wearing of masks and also prohibiting the discharge of dynamite or other explosives within the city limits.

KLANSMEN FINED FOR BREAKING LAW AGAINST MASKING

Pineville, Ky., March 19.—(AP)—Twenty-eight klansmen, and women, among them Arthur H. Bell, grand dragon of the New Jersey realm of the Invisible Empire Ku Klux Klan, were fined $1 each in police court for violation of the city's anti-masking ordinance.

The klan met Thursday night and in full regalia started parading the streets in violation of the new ordinance forbidding the wearing of masks or the discharging of dynamite or other explosives inside the city limits. Twenty-eight arrests were made.

Arraigned before Police Judge L. C. Kackley today the facts in the case were admitted by counsel for both the defense and the prosecution and submitted without testimony, after Judge Kackley had overruled a demurrer in which it was contended the ordinance was unconstitutional.

Ku Klux Klan - 1927

Massachusetts.

N.A.A.C.P. BLOCKS BILLS OF K. K. K.

NEW YORK, Feb. 23.—Declaring that agents of the Ku Klux Klan are largely responsible for the recent attempted discriminatory legislation in the New England states, the N. A. A. C. P. is making a determined effort to halt such legislation as is deemed against the best interests of citizens of color. The latest victory claimed in this direction is said to have been in Rhode Island, where the Association declares it has effectively blocked a bill designed to prevent intermarriage.

Another bill of the same general nature is now pending in the legislature of Connecticut and officials of the Association declare they will use every effort to prevent its becoming a law.

As proof of their charge that there is an organized, concerted attempt being made for such prejudicial legislation, the Association points out that there is also a bill now pending against the Catholic Church in Massachusetts. All measures of this nature will be subjected to the closest scrutiny and will meet with stiff opposition from the Association, officials declare.

HISSES, YELLS MARKS HEARING ON KLAN BILLS

Mass. Legislative Committee Adjourns Quickly When Outbreak Threatens

MEASURES AIMED AT NEGROES AND CATHOLIC

Poll Of State House Indicates Bills Will Be Killed Quickly

BOSTON.—A m i d scenes as wild as those which ever took place at a committee hearing of the Massachusetts Legislature, the legislative committee on legal affairs today considered several bills sponsored by the Knights of the Ku Klux Klan.

Yells, hisses, shouts "sit down" and applause," occurred so frequently th t the chairman of the committee threatened to clear the hall. He repeatedly ordered speakers to be seated. He directed attendants to stand beside boisterous members of the audience and keep them in their seats.

When matters reached the point that a serious outbreak was in prospect the committee voted to close the hearing on the bill under discussion and finding with the evidence half in abruptly adjourned the hearing until Wednesday.

The Gardner auditorium of the State House, scene of the hearing was jammed.

Epithets Hurled

At times several speakers were on the floor at once shouting that the chairman was unfair, shouting that the arguments of another speaker were false, shouting that they were being submitted to personal insults. Speakers referred to other speakers as "damnable," "scurrious creatures," and other epithets of like tenor.

The two bills which the committee heard today were a measure to forbid certain contracts, agreements or stipulations relating to the religious training of children springing from certain marriages, especially Catholics and another to prohibit the intermarriage of whites with persons of African descent.

On each of these the case for the proponents was opened by Nils T. Kjellstrom, legislative counsel for the Knights of the Ku Klux Klan with headquarters at Atlanta, Ga.

County Residents

Several of the speakers were residents of Worcester county, one of the speakers in favor of the bill to prevent the intermarriage of whites and Negroes was Mrs. Evelyn C. Keys, Worcester. Alternately smiling and sobbing she told the committee of crippled children on Dewey street and Mason street, Worcester, "whose condition is the direct result of intermarriage of the two races."

Although the hearing on the bills have not been concluded it was apparent at the State House from an informal poll of the members of the committee, that neither of the measures will be favorably reported and probably no appreciable effort will be made to obtain their passage on the floor of the House or Senate.

MASS REJECTS K. BILL

Uproar in State House—Anti-Mixed Marriage Put Over

ADVERSE REPORT IS UPHELD WITHOUT A DEBATE ON BILLS AIMED AT CATHOLICS — IRISH FOUGHT AND WON

Without debate the Massachusetts House of Representatives yesterday accepted the report, "leave to withdraw," recommended by the Committee on Legal Affairs on the anti-Catholic marriage bill. The measure, House 577, was on petition of Telfair M. Minton and provided fine and imprisonment for any person, who, authorized to perform the marriage ceremony should persuade, induce or entice the parties to a proposed marriage to enter into a contract to trainthe issue of such a marriage according to the tenets of any particular church, sect, religion or belief.

K'S PAID $332 IN MASS.

AND IN VAIN ON 4 BILLS BEFORE MASS. LEGISLATURE, ONE AGAINST INTERMARRIAGE AND ALL FOUR WERE LOST

A total of $332 was spent by the Ku Klux Klan in this State in an unsuccessful attempt to put through four pieces of legislation at the recent session of the General Court. Return of these legislative expenses was made today at the office of the Secretary of State under the provisions of the so-called "Lobby" law.

H. W. Evans, president of the organization, the return read, paid the $332 to Nils T. Kjellstrom of Westboro for his services in connection with a bill forbidding contracts before marriage stipulating the religious training of the children; a bill forbidding questioning validity of marriages legally performed; a bill forbidding belonging to fraternal organizations controlled by foreign Powers, and one forbidding the intermarriage of white and colored people. The four bills in question were rejected by the Legislature.

NEW ENGLAND KLUX FIND ISSUE IN SMITH AND WALSH FOR PRESIDENCY

This Ought to Keep Them Too Busy to Fight Colored

Springfield, Mass., June 17, 1927:—More than 7,000 members of the Ku Klux Klan from all parts of New England met here Saturday night and pledged their support to Hiram W. Evans, the Klan head, and the organization in its fight to defeat Governor Alfred E. Smith of New York, as a candidate for the presidency in 1928. The Kluxers also pledged work for the defeat of United States Senator David I. Walsh of this state. Many women attended the meeting and voted to talk up sentiment against Smith and Walsh.

7,000 KLANSMEN OF NEW ENGLAND PLEDGE FIGHT ON AL SMITH

Springfield, Mass., June 12.—(AP)—Seven thousand klansmen from all parts of New England meeting last night, pledged allegiance to Imperial Wizard Dr. Hiram W. Evans and the klan in its fight to defeat Gov. Alfred E. Smith of New York as a candidate for the presidency in 1928. The pledge also included the defeat of Senator David I. Walsh of this state.

Following a denunciation of Pope Pius, the Catholic hierarchy, and the Catholic church in general, Imperial Wizard Evans asked those present who would fight to defeat Smith and Walsh to raise their hands. With one accord, thousands of hands were lifted. Many women were in the crowd.

Ku Klux Klan - 1927

Michigan.

SAYS KLAN MEETING WAS HELD IN NEGRO CHURCH

Associated Negro Press

DETROIT, Mich., Feb. 16—The Ku Klux Klan, after a big parade with brass band and American flags, held a meeting at a colored baptist church here last Sunday, according to a letter printed in one of the colored newspapers, coming from a citizen living in the neighborhood of the church.

In this letter the writer states that the speaker introduced himself as R. B. St. Clair, Grand Klo Klaid K. K. K. of the State of Michigan, and in his address is said to have remarked, "The Negro papers and the N. A. A. C. P. have overstepped their bounds on most every issue that concerns the conflicts between the two races." A check for $133 was presented to the pastor of the church after which it was made known that the Klan's policy is to lend financial aid to ministers of the race for Negro Suffrage. About six hundred members of the Klan are said to have composed the congregation.

Rev. L. M. Burton, pastor of New Bethel Baptist Church, where the meeting was held, is silent on the matter. He informed the A. N. P. correspondent that the baptist union will make a statement at the proper time.

The Negroes of Detroit are very indignant over the matter.

KLAN DONATES $133.00 TO NEGRO CHURCH IN DETROIT

Citizens Protest Against Ministers Charged with Alleged Disloyalty To Race

Colored citizens of the Ryan Road district and other parts of Detroit are strong in their disapproval of the recent Klan meeting held in a small Baptist Church, corner of Stockton and Norwood Streets. Mr. S. A. Turner, a leading citizen of the Ryan Road Community, writes a letter to the Independent, in which he says the Klan presented the pastor of the church with a check for $133 and that their spokesman also criticized the colored newspapers and the N. A. A. C. P. for their efforts in defense of the race.

Mr. Turner's letter is as follows:

Editor Detroit Independent:

On Sunday afternoon, Jan. 30, at about 3:30 o'clock, my attention was attracted by a brass band and a throng of whites with an American flag. All were assembling themselves together at a little colored Baptist Church, corner of Stockton and Norwood Streets, known as New Bethel, and pastored by a Mr. Burton.

Squeezing my way through the dense crowd, I was fortunate enough to get near the speaker of the day. Just as I had found a place to stand, the speaker introduced himself as Mr. R. B. St. Clair, Grand Kli Klaid of K. K. K. of the State of Michigan. Listening attentively to his address I heard him say: "The Negro papers and the N. A. A. C. P. have overstepped their bounds on almost every issue that concerns the conflicts between the two races.

Referring to the local city administration, as well as Coolidge's Administration, he said that if the K. K. K. were in power, they would have the Holy Bible read daily in the public schools. Touching Coolidge's slackness of affairs, he stated that should the Klan become the ruling factor, there would be no religious wars; for they felt Mexico had been under bondage too long.

After the meeting adjourned, I was approached by Mr. L. J. Block, Secretary of the K. K. K., who presented me with his card, and extended me the invitation of visiting his office. In a brief discourse with him, I found out that their policy is to lend financial aid to ministers of our race, in exchange for Negro suffrage I might say here that a check for the sum of $133.00 was presented to the Rev. M. Burton by Mr. R. B. St. Clair, Grand Kli Klaid of the K. K. K.

I was very much surprised to see the Rev. L. A. Fort, Asst. Moderator of the Baptist Ministers' Union, presented to the K. K. K. in attendance, numbering about 500 or 600 people. It grieves me so very much to see our so-called Negro leaders, primarily ministers of the Gospel, sacrificing the liberty of the Negro citizenry of Detroit for a few paltry dollars, that I had to write you, in order that you might expose such leaders through your paper, so that the honest voters will be aware of such men.

Respectfully,
S. A. TURNER

DETROIT POLICE HALT K K K PARADE

DETROIT, MICH., JULY 20.— The entire police force was pressed into service here Saturday to prevent the K K. K. parade in the city. More than 15,000 klansmen from Indiana, Illinois and Ohio were encamped in the state fair grounds. Prior to this encampment, their representatives were denied permits to stage a parade, both councils here and Highland Park having refused it.

The hooded order made no preparation to parade, but police officials said that if an attempt was made to do so they would be in a position to halt the move. Armed cars filled with tear bombs and riot guns were transferred to outlying stations near the enampment.

Four years ago when the meet was held in Ohio, similar steps were taken in Columbus. National guardsmen patrolled the highways leading to the fair grounds. At that time, precaution was taken because it was feared that anti-klan forces would attempt to break up the meeting. The parade was held later.

MOBILIZE DETROIT POLICE TO STOP PARADE OF KLAN

Detroit, Mich., July 16.—[U.P.]—Every policeman in Detroit was on duty today to prevent a Klu Klux Klan parade in the city. Approximately 15,000 klansmen from Michigan, Ohio, Illinois, and Indiana were encamped at the state fair grounds. Their representatives recently were denied permits to stage a parade by both the Detroit and Highland Park city councils.

The klansmen gave no indication that they would attempt to parade without permission, but police officials said they had been informed the attempt would be made and that they would use all their power to prevent it. Armored cars loaded with tear bombs and riot guns were parked at the suburban police stations nearest the fair grounds.

K. K. K. BLAMED FOR BARRING NEGROES FROM VOTING IN DETROIT

(Preston News Service)

DETROIT, MICH., Nov. 17—According to officers af the N. A. A. C. P., more than 5,000 Negro voters' names were stricken from the voters' list on the eve of election Nov. 8. Attempts to intimidate Negroes by arrests before election and the placing of the letter "C" in front of every colored voter's name on the lists were also altered.

W. Hayes McKinney, a prominent Detroit attorney, declares that the attempt to keep Negroes from voting at the election was the work of the members of the Ku Klux Klan.

Ku Klux Klan-1927

Mississippi.

VICTIM OF FLOGGING DESCRIBES AMBUSH

Hattiesburg Farmer Comes to Town With Big Pistol.

HATTIESBURG, Miss., Nov. 22.—Armed with a tremendous horse pistol strapped about his waist, George W. Smith, the 60-year-old farmer of the Rawls Springs community, who was severely whipped with a heavy piece of harness Sunday by six unidentified men, recovered sufficiently from the lashing today to come to the city and exhibit his bruises to newspaper men.

Smith says that he can identify every one of his assailants, some of whom are his neighbors, but neither he nor his attorney, Duncan Draughn, has decided on final legal steps. Smith is carrying the huge pistol for self protection, he avers.

In recounting his experience at the hands of the band, he said that he and his wife were returning home Sunday evening from a trip to a sick friend's house when they passed two cars parked at the roadside, near Smith's home. He stopped his team and buggy and approached the two cars on foot to ask them if they were lost. The occupants had snapped off the headlights on the two cars, and in answer to his query, one man said they were lost. As Smith drew nearer one of the six suddenly seized him from the rear while a companion made a flying tackle at the old man and threw him to the ground.

A tin of tobacco and a pipe in one of his hip pockets were smashed to bits by the blows of the lash, which were inflicted for several minutes.

While the county investigation of the case has reached an impasse because sufficient evidence for a search warrant cannot be secured, and the victim refuses to sign affidavits, the courthouse officials point out that the farmer was within his rights in capturing livestock which were roaming the open range in the vicinity regardless of ownership, as the new state stock law allows any person to seize such live stock and pen them up.

Feeling is running high throughout the entire community, and a number of opponents of the stock law are expressing approval of the flogging. On the other hand, the Hattiesburg American, afternoon daily here, is leading a vigorous editorial fight for the arrest and punishment of the floggers.

MISSISSIPPI KLANS OPPOSE FLOGGINGS

Reward Offered For Masked Whippers; Want Million For Promotion Fund

JACKSON, MISS., Oct. 20.—(AP)—Resolutions condemning floggings and urging the passage of a law making this practice a felony were passed by the Ku Klux Klan, realm of Mississippi, in state meeting here today. One hundred and twenty-six of the 154 klans in the state were represented at the meeting.

A resolution was adopted offering a $500 reward for the conviction of persons who use any disguise for the violation of any of the laws of Mississippi, Fred E. Wankan, grand dragon of the realm of Mississippi, announced tonight in making public the resolution adopted at the state meeting here today.

Another resolution passed provided $100 reward for the conviction of persons violating the "white capping" laws [illegible] attaching to any threatening letter or letters, of intimidation, the words "Ku Klux Klan" the word "Klan" the letters "KKK" or any colorable title of the Klan.

"The Ku Klux Klan is not a regulatory body or corrective agency," the grand dragon explained, "but a patriotic fraternal order, given to teaching the highest ideals of citizenship."

A million dollar endowment fund was authorized at the state meeting, Mr. Wankan announced, "to promote general klan work within the realm."

AMERICAN

Hattiesburg Miss

SEP 17 1927

THE LAW AND THE LASH

Alabama authorities are going after the floggers in a most businesslike fashion. The cowards who travel in darkness along with the bats and the screech owls, and overpower their victims by weight of numbers, are being made to feel the heavy hand of the law.

Announcement that W. J. Wothington and his attorney, Louis C. Albright, have been taken into custody and held under $25,000 bonds is of special interest. These worthies are alleged to have whipped a poor negro, Arthur Hitt, to the point where he was willing to deed away his sixty-acre farm for a small fraction of its value. County records show that Worthington was the purchaser and Albright his attorney.

America has no place for floggers and their kind Ours is a government of laws rather than of men This very day, September 17th, is the anniversary of the adoption of the Constitution of the United States which guarantees to every man life, liberty and pursuit of happiness, and protects the humblest citizen from trial and punishment at the hands of any save a jury of his peers in open court after trial by due process of law.

The rule of the lash must end, in Alabama, Mississippi, in the South, and throughout this nation The quickest way to stop these atrocities is to follow Alabama's splendid example and impose the maximum punishment allowed by law upon all those who set themselves up as above its solemn mandates

Ku Klux Klan - 1927

New Jersey

NEGRO IS VICTIM OF COERCION

Klan's Threats Drive Youth Insane. Body Forces Him To Return To His Home In Virginia

SEABRIGHT, N. J., July 20.—(Special)—Jacob Hall, a hotel employe, departed Tuesday for his home in Smithville, Va., to the intense relief and satisfaction of members of the Ku Klux Klan, whose threats, according to Hall, drove him violently insane.

Driven Insane.

The relief experienced at the departure by the local residents was due to the fact that despite his condition he had been allowed at large for thirty-six hours after the New Jersey State Hospital for the insane at Trenton had refused to admit him on Sunday. The Klan members were said to be satisfied because Hall's departure from town was exactly what they had been seeking to accomplish by threats for some time.

Hall's story so far as its connection with Seabright is concerned begins several months ago in Smithfield, the fragmentary details of the tale coming from Hall himself, from local authorities and from Klan sources. Hall, it is said, was forced to help the Klan in the lynching of a companion near his Virginia home. He decided to leave that part of the country and came here and got a job at the Hotel Peninsula.

Word of his anti-lynching activities in Virginia was forwarded to local Klan officials. Hall kept on working steadily. One day he received a Klan threat. He was told to leave town at once or suffer the consequences. He stayed and received more threats.

Overcome After Hard Fight.

He became morose, melancholy, despondent, and on Sunday morning insanity overtook him at his home on Surf avenue. Frank Fannelly, a policeman, was summoned to the house and found Hall acting violently. It took Fannelly and several other men nearly two hours to subdue him. They tied him to a bedspring and summoned Dr. Daniel Manahan, who at once pronounced him insane and started for Trenton with him, accompanied by four guards.

When Dr. Manahan tried to have him admitted to the State Hospital for the Insane there he found that Hall could not be received because he was not a legal resident of New Jersey. The doctor insisted, but nothing could be done. Hall was brought back here.

By this time he had recovered somewhat and was no longer violent. The local authorities attempted to let Hall go, hoping to prevent any further outbreaks by keeping an unofficial eye watch on him.

On Monday, when the Klan residents learned that Hall was at large they complained to the authorities. The complaints increased and the officials sought some way out. The exit they hit upon was to demand that relatives of Hall here take him back to Smithfield, and that is what was done.

NEW YORK
SUN and GLOBE

JUL 20 1927

NEGRO FORCED TO QUIT

Hall Leaves Jersey Resort After Klan Warning.

SEABRIGHT, N. J., July 20. — Local members of the Ku Klux Klan to-day were rejoicing at the departure yesterday for his former home in Virginia of Jacob Hall, a negro who came here several months ago and who, after receiving a warning from the Klan on Sunday, went suddenly insane.

Efforts were made by Dr. Daniel Manahan to have Hall taken in at the New Jersey State Hospital for the Insane at Trenton on Sunday, after a patrolman had found him at his home acting violently, but Dr. Manahan was told that Hall could not be admitted because he was not a resident of the State.

Hall was detained at police headquarters here during the day, but as he had calmed down considerably, was released late that night. He left yesterday vowing he was happy to return to the South even if race prejudice was more pronounced there.

The local Klan officials here issued their warning to Hall, not because of anything he had done while employed in the Hotel Peninsula, but because they had been informed by Klan members of the Virginia town where Hall formerly lived that the negro had been active in anti-Klan circles there. Hall told the police on Sunday that he had attempted to interfere in the Klan lynching of another negro in the Virginia town.

NEW YORK
TIMES

JUL 20 1927

NEGRO QUITS STATE, JERSEY KLAN HAPPY

Leaves Seabright for Virginia After Rejection at State Insane Hospital.

RECEIVED MANY THREATS

He Says They Caused Derangement —Left Home in South After Opposing a Lynching There.

Special to The New York Times.

SEABRIGHT, N. J., July 19.—Jacob Hall, a negro hotel employe, departed today for his home in Smithfield, Va., to the intense relief of residents here and also, it is believed, to the satisfaction of members of the Ku Klux Klan, whose threats, according to Hall, drove him violently insane.

The relief experienced at the negro's departure by the local residents was due to the fact that despite his condition he had been allowed at large for thirty-six hours after the New Jersey State Hospital for the Insane at Trenton had refused to admit him on Sunday. The Klan members were said to be satisfied because Hall's departure from town was exactly what they had been seeking to accomplish by threats for some time.

Hall's story so far as its connection with Seabright is concerned begins several months ago in Smithfield, the fragmentary details of the tale coming from Hall himself, from local authorities and from Klan sources. The negro, it is said, attempted to interfere in the Klan lynching of another negro near his Virginia home. He decided to leave that part of the country and came here and got a job at the Hotel Peninsula.

Word of his anti-lynching activities in Virginia was forwarded to local Klan officials. Hall kept on working steadily. One day he received a Klan threat. He was told to leave town at once or suffer the consequences. He stayed and received more threats.

Overcome After Hard Fight.

He became morose, melancholy, despondent, and on Sunday morning insanity overtook him at his home on Surf Avenue. Frank Fannelly, a policeman, was summoned to the house and found Hall acting violently. It took Fannelly and several other men nearly two hours to subdue him. They tied him to a bedspring and summoned Dr. Daniel Manahan, who at once pronounced him insane and started for Trenton with him, accompanied by four guards.

When Dr. Manahan tried to have him admitted to the State Hospital for the Insane there he found that Hall could not be received because he was not a legal resident of New Jersey. The doctor insisted, but nothing could be done. Hall was brought back here.

By this time he had recovered somewhat and was no longer violent. The local authorities were in a quandary. They attempted to solve it by letting the negro go, hoping to prevent any further outbreaks by keeping an unofficial watch on him.

On Monday, when the residents learned that Hall was at large, they complained to the authorities. The complaints increased and the officials sought some way out. The exit they hit upon was to demand that relatives of Hall here take him back to Smithfield, and that is what was done this morning.

Ousted Pastor Awaits Klan With Pistol; Will Shoot if Home Is Invaded, He Says

Special to The New York Times.

BERLIN, N. J., Aug. 3.—Warned by the Ku Klux Klan, which burned a cross in front of his home early yesterday morning, the Rev. Wilbert W. McClain sat up late tonight with a loaded pistol within easy reach awaiting the return of the hooded order to his home at Atco, a village about eighteen miles from Camden.

"If they come again I'll shoot," threatened McClain, who blames the Klan for ousting him as pastor of the Undenominational Church here nearly two months ago. He had helped build the church with his own hands.

On the strength of the warning note found pinned to a six-foot cross which was set afire in front of his home, McClain has appealed to the State police for protection. He says that unless they act he will appeal to the Camden County Prosecutor.

McClain, who was formerly a garage mechanic, lays his dismissal to a "vision" by Clarence Simpkins Sr., a leader in his church, and to charegs made that he was a false prophet and chewed tobacco. Simpkins said in the "vision" that he saw William A. Jones, financial supporter of the church, and his wife standing together and that Mrs. Jones turned from her husband to McClain. The former pastor "pooh-poohed" the vision but did admit that he both chewed and smoked tobacco.

"It's a vice I brought from the world that I've not been able to cast aside," confessed the mechanic-evangelist when brought before the trial board of his church. McClain says he stirred up the Klan animosity because he opposed inviting the hooded members to the dedication of his church last June.

Ku Klux Klan - 1927

New Jersey.

JOURNAL
JERSEY CITY, N. J.

FEB 14 1927

HOODED ORDER, K. C., JEWS AND NEGROES MEET

Coming from seventeen counties in automobiles, about 1,000 Klansmen and Klanswomen jammed Bergen Lyceum to its capacity at the services of the Protestant laymen's conference yesterday. Sitting with the Klansmen were eighteen members of the Knights of Columbus, guests of Rev. A. M. Young at the fraternal day services and the colored Wandering Boys' Quartet of St. Mark's A. M. E., and a delegation of twenty-one Hebrews.

The crowd was so large that the men of the hooded order were draped at all points of vantage in the building and even welled into the basement where a loud speaker and chairs were hurriendly arranged for the overflow, so that they might hear the services.

Inspector John Underwood and Captain Harry Walsh, of the Mercer Street station, had twelve detectives scattered throughout the building and many uniformed men on the sidewalks in front of the Lyceum and at the doors. Inspector Underwood closed the doors of the building shortly after the services started. As soon as the doors were closed hundreds came in busses and private cars, but were turned away. More than 2,500 persons left the scene quietly when informed that the place was crowded.

Several women fainted and had to be revived in ante rooms of the auditorium. In no case was it necessary to call for an ambulance. The lobby was filled and likewise the staircase leading to the balcony. These seats gave their holders but glimpse of the pointed hoods of the Klansmen who filled the greater part of the auditorium, and heard with difficulty.

In the basement there were several robed figures with two men in soldier uniforms. Their presence was unexplained.

Some enterprising person conceived the idea of opening up a lunch counter. Sandwiches were going for two bits and coffee was cheap. Those who patronized the stand had to fight their way to it.

During the services when Dr. Young was calling off the list of counties and asking all delegates from each county to rise, those in the basement answered the order by standing. Another guard in the basement was a Klansman who paraded up and down the aisle.

The meeting was originally designed to promote a better understanding between the Knights of Columbus and the Knights of the Ku Klux Klan. The small delegation from the Catholic order were given a great ovation by the Klansmen. Their spokesman was called on to say something and stood for a second to thank Dr. Young for his invitation and sat down.

Mrs. Arthur H. Bell, who is an official of Klanswomen and the wife of Grand Dragon of New Jersey Arthur Bell of Monmouth County, urged that the Klan not be criticised because it is trying to preserve Christianity, upon which the country is founded.

Captain Walsh sent word to Dr. Young during the services that no one was to leave the building in the robes of the Klan. He said that he gave the order for fear that there might be some disturbance which would mar the otherwise peaceful gathering. Dr. Young transmitted the order to the gathering and asked that it be complied wih.

The appearance of the hooded order and the great crowd overshadowed the importance of the principal speaker of the day, Rev. Hurley D. Sheldon, of the New York Evangelistic Committee, but probably better known as the Bishop of Wall Street.

His talk was removed from the fraternal trend of the meeting. "Make Secure Your Faith" was the subject of the evangelist. During his talk he intimated that it was man's business whether he should work on Sunday or keep this day for worship. He quoted the Bible and said that it did not mention the day to be devoted for rest.

It was Dr. Sheldon's second visit to the Protestant Laymen's Conference in a short time. His welcome was as enthusiastic yesterday as his first was.

The meeting was the most successful financially held so far by the organization. Dr. Young announced that $900 had been donated to the cause. The receipts were about 800 per cent. more than is usually taken it at the weekly service.

Grand Dragon Bell sent a telegram to Dr. Young during the service that he was hearing every word through the radio in Kentucky and sent his congratulations and blessings to the Knights of Columbus.

Automobiles of all sizes and makes, some covered with the mud of the country roads and others with dust, were parked along Bergen Avenue and all the surroundings streets in the neighborhood of the Lyceum. Captain Walsh detailed officers to guard the cars.

Few of the Klansmen entered the building with their robes on. Those who did drove up to the entrance of the building and made a quick entrance. Unlike most meetings attended by the hooded order, several lifted their hoods and others who are known to be Klansmen failed to wear their garments of the order.

Dr. Young during one of his announcements said there was little difference in those who worshipped the fiery cross and those who worshipped the cross on which Jesus was crucified because all Christians pray to the same God.

Ku Klux Klan - 1927

New York.

BROOKLYN TIMES

ANTI-NEGRO LEADER WARNED OF DEATH

AUG 26 1927

Dr. John H. Kern of Rockaway Beach Gets Threats By Telephone and Letter.

Three threats of death, two by telephone and one in a letter, were received today by Dr. John Hewitt Kern of Rockaway Beach, one of the leaders in the movement to prevent additional colonization there and at Seaside by colored people. Police, the postal authorities, and officials of the telephone company are cooperating to find the originators of the threats.

The telephone calls warned Dr. Kern not to speak at the proposed meeting in the Francine Club on Tuesday night, which is called to discuss ways to bring about segregation for the negro population and the possible organization of an anti-negro association.

The letter, written on a single sheet of cheap note paper, in blue ink, was postmarked Far Rockaway, Aug. 26, 2 P. M. The writing, the same in the body of the letter as on the envelope, appears to be that of a woman. Postal authorities said there apparently was no attempt to disguise the writing.

The message, written across the centre of the page, said:

"Beware, your life is in danger."

It was unsigned.

The page was decorated in the upper left hand corner by a drawing of a skull and crossbones. In the upper right corner there was a drawing of a pistol. A bomb decorated the lower left corner and a dagger the lower right.

The letter was turned over to Capt Dinan of the Rockaway Beach police who said he would have a strong guard of police and plainclothes men at the proposed meeting Tuesday night.

Dr. Kern, formerly assistant to the State Industrial Commissioner, said he believed the threats were made only with the intention of frightening him and possibly preventing him from attending the meeting. He is scheduled to make the principal speech. He said he had no intention of changing his plans because of the threats.

Ku Klux Klan - 1927

New York.

NEW YORK JOURNAL

MAR 12 1927

NEGROES FORM OWN K. K. K.

Negro leaders of Harlem were advised today of the formation of an organization known as Knights of the Colored Krusaders, launched in the Negro section of Asheville, N. C., which is reported to have met instant favor with its appeal to mystery, and is now sweeping the Negro sections of half a dozen Southern cities, according to reports reaching the "Royal Palace" there.

The "K. K. K." symbol copied outright, the white robe and hood changed to one of heavy black, properly relieved by scarlet symbols, the regalia of the new order has sufficient appeal among the citizens of the Dark Continent, where mystery brooded for countless centuries, finally emerging as "Voodoo Art" to make the venture at least a temporary success, and many members are reported to have paid the admission fee, while shrewd Negroes are getting rich as organizers.

The objectives of the new organization are a bit hazy, but there is no denying the appeal. To be able to hear the eerie chanting in ine of the "kaverns" of the black-hooded order is to witness a scene of flaming symbols, sombre-colered background, effective lighting and barbaric display that rivals some of the jungle dances described by explorers.

Whether or not the idea will stick after the novelty has worn off remains to be seen, but the fact that the leaders are profiting in a monetary way by keeping the emotions of their followers worked up, and that there are nearly 5,000,000 prospects for the organizers to work upon, bids fair for the ife of the organization and the prosperity of its founders.

Bar Klan From Parade

New York, June 10.—The Ku Klux Klan and organizations having "a basis of religious or racial prejudices liable to application by force" were barred last week by Police Commissioner Warren from parading on any streets or boulevards in the city. His order was issued as a result of the riot caused by the parade of the Ku Klux Klan in the Jamaica-Queens Decoration day parade.

BROOKLYN EAGLE

MAY 25 1927

K. OF C. WITHDRAWS AFTER KLAN ENTERS MEMORIAL PARADE

Jamaica Council's Action Follows Protest—Negroes to March Despite Ku-Klux.

Because the Ku Klux Klan has been given a place in the Queens Memorial Day parade, the Jamaica Council of the Knights of Columbus today withdrew from that parade, in which they have participated for the past 12 years.

Final decision to withdraw was made at a meeting of the council last night in the K. of C. clubhouse on Herriman ave., Jamaica. After the secret session, Vincent C. Rottkamp, grand knight of the council, issued this brief statement:

"The Jamaica Council Number 537 of the Knights of Columbus takes this stand after due deliberation and after taking part in the Memorial Day exercises in the 4th Ward of Queens for the past 12 years."

Negroes to March Just the Same.

Announcement that the Klan would take part in the Memorial Day parade will have no effect on Jamaica's negro delegation, according to George W. Hunkins, marshal of that division.

"Nearly 300 negroes will parade," said Hunkins today. "Our purpose is to honor past and present heroes and not to start unnecessary trouble. I have been assured that our men and women will attend, rain or shine, because it is much as their parade as any other organization."

Harry Herzog, president of the Memorial Day Citizens Committee said that the entire matter of allowing the Klan to parade rested with the committee and with no separate organization. Announcement was made today that the Steuben Society, made up of Americans of German ancestry would have about 500 members in line.

N. Y. KLANSMEN CONDEMNED BY POLICE HEAD

New York, June 1, 1927:—(A.P.).—Full responsibility for the action of city police in attempting to prevent participation of uniformed Ku Klux Klansmen in the Memorial Day parade in Queens, which resulted in a riot, was today assumed by Police Commissioner Joseph A. Warren.

The Klansmen "clearly were guilty of a breach of faith with the police," said Commissioner Warren in a statement exonerating the police. He said that Klan had been forbidden to parade in regalia and wore robes and hoods.

Grouping the Klan episode and two disturbances among Italian Fascisti and their opponents which caused two deaths, Commissioner Warren said, "neither the Klan nor the Fascisti have a proper place in a parade dedicated to the soldier dead of the United States." The Fascisti members were on their way to join the Memorial Day parade in Manhattan when attacked.

Although the Klan obtained permission to take part in the parade from the G. A. R., holders of the parade permit, Grand Army officials said the permission was granted on condition that the klansmen appear in civilian dress.

KLAN INFLUENCE WORKED TO KILL JEWISH PATIENTS

N. Y. Hospital Anti-Semites Sabotage

How the Ku Klux Klan element of the Kings County Hospital of Brooklyn mistreated Jewish patients of that institution is now coming to light as a result of the suicide of three internes there last Monday.

A Jewish woman of Brooklyn, former patient of the hospital will be one of a number of persons who have had dealings with the hospital to appear before the Mayor. She will relate how she was left unattended for five hours, and how the interne who was in charge of the ambulance in which she was taken to the hospital called out with profane contempt, "Here's another Jew!"

Nathan H. Sweedler, council for the three Jewish internes, yesterday related how the nurses who worked with the internes refused to cooperate with them.

He said nurses were lax in wards in which Jewish internes had been assigned and not only insulted the internes but refused to carry out their orders, particularly if they concerned Jewish patients. And Jewish patients, Sweedler added, were insulted by nurses.

Sweedler charged openly that the Ku Klux Klan is directly responsible for the actions of the doctors and nurses at the hospital.

PROHIBIT KLAN PARADE JULY 4 IN NEW YORK

New York, June 17.—(AP)—Police Commissioner Warren's recent ruling forbidding parades by religious, racial or political organizations that might result in disorder was applied for the first time today when he denied permission for a Ku Klux Klan parade on July 4.

The commissioner's ruling followed disorders incident to a klan parade in Queens and a Fascist parade on Manhattan on Memorial day.

Mr. Warren received the request for a July 4 parade by letter written on the stationery of the Ku Klux Klan of Atlanta, Ga., and signed by a man purporting to be the head of the organization in Queens.

JAMAICANS PROTEST KLAN PARADE MEMORIAL DAY

NEW YORK.—The Jamaica, Long Island, branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People has added its protest to those of the Knights of Columbus and the American Legion against the permission accorded the Ku Klux Klan to march unmasked in the local Memorial Day parade. The letter of the Jamaica N. A. A. C. P. to Adolph Herzog, Chairman of the Parade committee, asks that the permission accorded the Klan to take part in the parade be revoked. The letter is signed by C. M. Reid, President, and Frank M. Turner, Secretary, of the Jamaica Branch.

KLAN, FASCISTI BARRED GOTHAM PARADE PERMITS

New York, June 3.—(AP)—The Ku Klux Klan, the Fascisti, or any organization having "a basis of religious or racial prejudices liable to opposition by force" will be barred henceforth to parade in New York City, Police Commissioner Joseph A. Warren announced today.

The announcement was made as his office refused a parade permit to about 5,000 members of the Fascisti who had intended being in the line of march tomorrow morning after the funerals of two of their number who were slain on their way to participate in a Memorial Day parade.

The commissioner's announcement follows upon the deaths of the two Fascists and the near riot in Queens when a thousand members of the Ku Klux Klan attempted and finally succeeded in parading despite police efforts to prevent them.

OTHER PAPERS SAY

THE KLAN AND THE POLICE IN QUEENS

[New York World]

The treatment accorded to the Ku Klux Klan by the police in the Memorial day parade at Jamaica calls for immediate investigation and sharp disciplinary measures against all the officials responsible for the outrage. There is no doubt about the principal facts in the incident. The Klan had a right under the law to participate in the parade, if it marched without masks. The newspaper photographs show clearly the Klansmen, although they wore their sheets and pointed caps, had their faces uncovered. They had permission to march from the sponsors of the parade. We know that on the authority of Mr. Harry Herzog, president of the Citizens' Memorial Day Parade association.

Since the Klansmen had the right to march, they had every right to expect police protection in the exercise of their right. The fact that hoodlums were threatening to attack them should have meant just one thing to the police—a determination to see that the Klansmen were not molested. There is no excuse to say that their appearance in the parade was bound to provoke trouble, and that the police were justified in trying to prevent them from marching. The police have merely to prevent trouble but to prevent trouble due to interference with the rights of the citizen. They did not do their duty at Jamaica. On the contrary, all reports agree that they attempted, rather foolishly and ineffectively at that, to deny their rights.

This is exactly the same type of high-handed lawlessness for which this community has always condemned the Klan. We want no Klan methods practiced against the Klan. Just because the Klan is unpopular in this community, its rights should be protected with scrupulous care.

Ku Klux Klan - 1927

New York.

NEW YORK
JOURNAL
MAR 12 1927

NEGROES FORM OWN K. K. K.

Negro leaders of Harlem were advised today of the formation of an organization known as Knights of the Kolored Krusaders, launched in the Negro section of Asheville, N. C., which is reported to have met instant favor with its appeal to mystery, and is now sweeping the Negro sections of half a dozen Southern cities, according to reports reaching the "Royal Palace" there.

The "K. K. K." symbol copied outright, the white robe and hood changed to one of heavy black, properly relieved by scarlet symbols, the regalia of the new order has sufficient appeal among the citizens of the Dark Continent, where mystery brooded for countless centuries, finally emerging as "Voodoo Art" to make the venture at least a temporary success, and many members are reported to have paid the admission fee, while shrewd Negroes are getting rich as organizers.

The objectives of the new organization are a bit hazy, but there is no denying the appeal. To be able to hear the eerie chanting in ine of the "kaverns" of the black-hooded order is to witness a scene of flaming symbols, sombre-colered background, effective lighting and barbaric display that rivals some of the jungle dances described by explorers.

Whether or not the idea will stick after the novelty has worn off remains to be seen, but the fact that the leaders are profiting in a monetary way by keeping the emotions of their followers worked up, and that there are nearly 5,000,000 prospects for the organizers to work upon, bids fair for the ife of the organization and the prosperity of its founders.

Bar Klan From Parade

New York, June 10.—The Ku Klux Klan and organizations having "a basis of religious or racial prejudices liable to opposition by force" were barred last week by Police Commissioner Warren from parading on any streets or boulevards in the city. His order was issued as a result of the riot caused by the parade of the Ku Klux Klan in the Jamaica-Queens Decoration day parade.

BROOKLYN EAGLE

MAY 25 1927

K. OF C. WITHDRAWS AFTER KLAN ENTERS MEMORIAL PARADE

Jamaica Council's Action Follows Protest—Negroes to March Despite Ku-Klux.

Because the Ku Klux Klan has been given a place in the Queens Memorial Day parade, the Jamaica Council of the Knights of Columbus today withdrew from that parade, in which they have participated for the past 12 years.

Final decision to withdraw was made at a meeting of the council last night in the K. of C. clubhouse on Herriman ave., Jamaica. After the secret session, Vincent C. Rottkamp, grand knight of the council, issued this brief statement:

"The Jamaica Council Number 537 of the Knights of Columbus takes this stand after due deliberation and after taking part in the Memorial Day exercises in the 4th Ward of Queens for the past 12 years."

Negroes to March Just the Same.

Announcement that the Klan would take part in the Memorial Day parade will have no effect on Jamaica's negro delegation, according to George W. Hunkins, marshal of that division.

"Nearly 300 negroes will parade," said Hunkins today. "Our purpose is to honor past and present heroes and not to start unnecessary trouble. I have been assured that our men and women will attend, rain or shine, because it is much as their parade as any other organization."

Harry Herzog, president of the Memorial Day Citizens Committee said that the entire matter of allowing the Klan to parade rested with the committee and with no separate organization. Announcement was made today that the Steuben Society, made up of Americans of German ancestry would have about 500 members in line.

N. Y. KLANSMEN CONDEMNED BY POLICE HEAD

New York, June 1, 1927:—(A.P.).—Full responsibility for the action of city police in attempting to prevent participation of uniformed Ku Klux Klansmen in the Memorial Day parade in Queens, which resulted in a riot, was today assumed by Police Commissioner Joseph A. Warren.

The Klansmen "clearly were guilty of a breach of faith with the police," said Commissioner Warren in a statement exonerating the police. He said that Klan had been forbidden to parade in regalia and wore robes and hoods.

Grouping the Klan episode and two disturbances among Italian Fascisti and their opponents which caused two deaths, Commissioner Warren said, "neither the Klan nor the Fascisti have a proper place in a parade dedicated to the soldier dead of the United States." The Fascisti members were on their way to join the Memorial Day parade in Manhattan when attacked.

Although the Klan obtained permission to take part in the parade from the G. A. R., holders of the parade permit, Grand Army officials said the permission was granted on condition that the klansmen appear in civilian dress.

KLAN INFLUENCE WORKED TO KILL JEWISH PATIENTS

N. Y. Hospital Anti-Semites Sabotage

How the Ku Klux Klan element of the Kings County Hospital of Brooklyn mistreated Jewish patients of that institution is now coming to light as a result of the hazing of three internes there last Monday.

A Jewish woman of Brooklyn, former patient of the hospital will be one of a number of persons who have had dealings with the hospital to appear before the Mayor. She will relate how she was left unattended for five hours, and how the interne who was in charge of the ambulance in which she was taken to the hospital called out with profane contempt, "Here's another Jew!"

Nathan H. Sweedler, council for the three Jewish internes, yesterday related how the nurses who worked with the internes refused to cooperate with them.

He said nurses were lax in wards in which Jewish internes had been assigned and not only insulted the internes but refused to carry out their orders, particularly if they concerned Jewish patients. And Jewish patients, Sweedler added, were insulted by nurses.

Sweedler charged openly that the Ku Klux Klan is directly responsible for the actions of the doctors and nurses at the hospital.

PROHIBIT KLAN PARADE JULY 4 IN NEW YORK

New York, June 17.—(AP)—Police Commissioner Warren's recent ruling forbidding parades by religious, racial or political organizations that might result in disorder was applied for the first time today when he denied permission for a Ku Klux Klan parade on July 4.

The commissioner's ruling followed disorders incident to a klan parade in Queens and a Fascist parade on Manhattan on Memorial day.

Mr. Warren received the request for a July 4 parade in a letter written on the stationery of the Ku Klux Klan of Atlanta, Ga., and signed by a man purporting to be the head of the organization in Queens.

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The commissioner's announcement follows upon the deaths of the two Fascists and the near riot in Queens when a thousand members of the Ku Klux Klan attempted and finally succeeded in parading despite police efforts to prevent them.

Fear of Klan Unbalances Man

Runs Amuck at Exclusive New Jersey Coast Resort

SEA BRIGHT, July 25.—Crazed by threats made against his life by the Ku Klux Klan Jacob Hall, who threw this resort into a panic when he became violently insane last Sunday evening, has disappeared from the streets of the borough, and there is a tacit understanding in official quarters that persons interested in his welfare have arranged for his transportation to an institution in Virginia. Virginia is his official residence, and the state hospital at Trenton refused him admittance when Officer Frank Flannelly of Sea Bright had him taken there.

Later developments have thrown more light on the case. Judge J. D. Campbell has revealed that Hall had unburdened himself to him for the melancholy which preceded his insanity. According to the man's story, he had incurred the enmity of the Ku Klux Klan in Virginia by being instrumental in saving the life of a friend of his who had been threatened with lynching. He then fled to Sea Bright, he said, but after three weeks the alleged persecution began and he began to be in constant fear of his own life. He said he had been told to leave town. Judge Campbell says he soothed the man somewhat by telling him that he had no reason to be afraid; but later in the day he developed the symptoms of insanity, and it was necessary to place physical restraint upon him.

After the violence of the first attack, Hall became somewhat rational and expressed his willingness to be placed in an institution.

N. Y. WORLD

JUL 28 1927

GRAND JURY LAYS KLAN RIOT TO COPS IN NOTICE TO MAYOR

Demands That Walker Punish Those Who Interfered With Paraders on Memorial Day

CALLS IT HIGH-HANDED AND BRUTAL ATTACK

Police Under Capt. McQueeney Scathingly Denounced for the Alleged Misuse of Force

The police yesterday were accused of brutality toward Klansmen and other marchers in the Queens Memorial Day parade, and Mayor Walker was directed to investigate the actions of the police "for the disgraceful assault" and punish the guilty in a presentment returned to County Judge Frank F. Adel by the Queens County Grand Jury.

Minutes of the three-day investigation conducted by the Grand Jury, during which more than a score of the witnesses were heard, were ordered sent to the Mayor.

After pointing out that the testimony of "responsible citizens of Jamaica" had established the fact that the Klan had received the necessary permission from the G. A. R. to enter the parade May 30 and had assembled peaceably, the presentment continued:

Masks Were Barred

"We further find that an order was issued by Police Commissioner Warren and transmitted to Inspector Kelly of the Borough of Queens, and from him to Inspector Haerle, and from him to Capt. McQueeney of the Jamaica Precinct, to prevent the Ku Klux Klan from parading in said Memorial Day parade if they were masked.

"We further find that the Ku Klux Klan did take part in the parade and marched in an orderly manner from Forest Parkway, Woodhaven, to the junction of Hillside Avenue and Queens Boulevard, Jamaica, a distance of about two miles.

"That this group was in line of march with the knowledge and consent of the Committee on Credentials and with the approval of the Grand Marshal of the G. A. R., and that they were orderly in their march and wore no masks.

"That at the above mentioned junction of Queens Boulevard and Hillside Avenue the police under the command of Capt. McQueeney resorted to force to eliminate the Ku Klux Klan from the parade.

"That a cordon of police was strung across Hillside Avenue in front of the Klansmen and that with weapons known as billiçs physically forced some of the members from the parade.

Bus Zig-Zagged in Way

"That some of the members of the Ku Klux Klan succeeded in passing and the cordon of police with a bus commandeered by the police, partially filled with colored people and police, together with police automobiles, in their efforts to stop the Ku Klux Klan from reforming in line, did operate said cars and bus in zig-zag fashion through Division No. 6, which was comprised of the following organizations:

"Richmond Hill High School children, De Moley Association, Steuben Society, and the Richmond Hill Republican Club and others, thereby endangering the lives of those in line and those on the side lines and breaking up Division 6 and did injure a number of citizens.

"We conclude that the duty of the police as sworn defenders of the public, was limited to maintaining order.

"That every organization in such parade was equally entitled, regardless of race, or color or creed, to protection from the police.

"That the actions of the police in physically forcing the Klansmen from the parade and in driving automobiles through their ranks, unquestionably did more to incite riot than to quell disturbance.

Appeals to Mayor

"Consequently, we would respectfully call the attention of the Mayor of the City of New York, the Hon. James J. Walker, to these findings of this Grand Jury and direct him to investigate to the fullest extent the actions of the police under command of Capt. McQueeney, for the disgraceful assault, not only on marchers but innocent civilians along the line of march, in order to avoid any recurrence of this high-handed and brutal attack, and we, as the Grand Jury, direct the Mayor of the City of New York to see that the guilty persons are punished.

The statement directed that a copy of the minutes be sent to the Mayor.

GRAND JURY BLAMES POLICE IN KLAN ROW

Wants Mayor to Punish Those Guilty of "Brutal Attacks" on Jamaica Paraders.

DEMANDS A FULL INQUIRY

Declares Force Did More to Incite Riot Than to Keep Order.

WALKER TO STUDY FINDINGS

Says He Will Give Them Serious Consideration When He Receives the Presentment.

In a presentment handed up yesterday to County Judge Frank F. Adel, the Queens County Grand Jury severely criticized the police for attempting to prevent Ku Klux Klansmen from marching in the Memorial Day parade in Jamaica.

The final portion of the presentment requested that a copy of the minutes of the hearings held by the body be furnished to Mayor Walker and said: "We would respectfully call the attention of the Mayor of the City of New York to these findings of this Grand Jury and direct him to investigate to the fullest extent the actions of the police under Captain McQueeney of the Jamaica Precinct, for the disgraceful assault not only upon the marchers but innocent civilians along the line of march, in order to avoid a recurrence of this high-handed and brutal attack, and we, as the Grand Jury, direct the Mayor to see that the guilty parties are punished."

The conclusions of the Grand Jurors were arrived at after three full sessions devoted to investigation of charges of police brutality in driving the Klan delegation from the parade. A number of witnesses testified, among them Police Commissioner Joseph A. Warren.

Walker to Consider Findings.

Mayor Walker, when informed of the presentment and of its demaid that he institute an inquiry into the conduct of the police, said:

"I have not yet hear dofficially from the Grand Jury nor seen a copy of its presentment, and am therefore hardly in position to comment upon it. Apart from my position as Mayor, however, and speaking only as a member of the bar, it would be my duty to give serious consideration to any such deliverance emanating from so important a body as a Grand Jury, which is an important part of our judicial system. When its presentment is before me it will receive such consideration."

The presentment began by telling how the Ku Klux Klan received permission to participate in the parade from the Grand Army of the Republic, which had charge of the arrangements. It then recounted how Police Commissioner Warren had an order transmitted to Captain McQueeney directing him to stop the Klan delegation from marching if masks were worn.

"We further find that the Ku Klux Klan did take part in the parade and marched in an orderly manner from Forest Parkway, Woodhaven, to the junction of Hillside Avenue and Queens Boulevard, Jamaica, a distance of about two miles" went on the presentment.

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Zigzagged Car Through Line.

"That some of the members of the Ku Klux Klan succeeded in passing the cordon of police with a bus commandeered by the police, partially filled with colored people and police, together with police automobiles, who in their efforts to stop the Ku Klux Klan from reforming in line, did operate said cars and bus in zigzag fashion through Division 6, which was comprised of the following organizations:

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Ku Klux Klan - 1927

North Carolina.

TWO SMASHING BLOWS AT THE KLAN

Two judges of high courts in two Southern States on Monday of this week struck two manly blows for tolerance and justice. Both were aimed at the Ku Klux Klan. That they were delivered on the same day is a coincidence of some significance. But what is more significant is that one blow was struck from within the klan by a judge who spoke not as a jurist, but as a high official of the klan in the act of resigning from the organization.

Judge Henry A. Grady, of the Superior Court of North Carolina, has announced his resignation as grand dragon of the North Carolina klan, after a break with Imperial Wizard Hiram W. Evans. According to an A. P. dispatch an authorized statement published in the Raleigh News and Observer yesterday said Judge Grady resigned "because of efforts of the klan officials to secure legislation in the State forbidding marriage of Protestants and Catholics where an agreement is made as to the rearing of children and making membership in the Roman Catholic church and the Knights of Columbus a felony."

According to the Associated Press, four pieces of suggested legislation were received in North Carolina from the imperial palace of the klan. Three of them related to the Catholic church, the Knights of Columbus and marriage of Protestants and Catholics and the fourth was a bill to forbid inter-racial marriages, which is already a law in the State. None of the klan bills has been introduced into the legislature.

The suggested legislation, reeking of intolerance of the worst kind—religious intolerance—caused the break between Judge Grady and the klan. He has addressed a 3,500-word letter to the imperial wizard denouncing this effort to abridge religious freedom. "As we pretend to be in favor of religious liberty, freedom of thought and the freedom of the press, we are putting ourselves in direct opposition to our declared principles," Judge Grady has written.

That a majority of the members of the klan in North Carolina are with Judge Grady in his opposition to such rank intolerance is indicated by the announcement that 66 of the 86 klans in the State have surrendered their charters.

From Lyons, Ga., comes another A. P. dispatch telling of a ringing denunciation of the klan delivered by Judge R. N. Hardeman, of the Superior Court of Georgia, in the course of a charge to the Toombs county grand jury in which he ordered a thorough investigation of the flogging of an attorney last Christmas Eve. This attorney shortly before that had aided in the prosecution of several men charged with being members of a hooded band which had killed a man.

"The whipping post was abolished by the Anglo-Saxon race and I tell you it will not be re-established in Georgia," declared Judge Hardeman. "I never liked the words 'imperial' and 'empire' as applied to government and God knows there is no place among white men for invisible empires." The Toombs county grand jury cannot indict without evidence, said Judge Hardeman; "yet men can cover their faces, sit in Altamaha swamp and indict and do more than you have a right to do."

These are the facts in the two cases. They show up the klan at its worst. In North Carolina, it urges legislation to back its intolerance. In Georgia, it flogs a lawyer who had aided in the prosecution of men accused of being members of a hooded band that had committed murder.

Intolerance and acts of violence are not to be tolerated in any civilized country.

Many members of the klan are not in sympathy with such policies. As Judge Grady says, the klan is putting itself in direct opposition to its declared principles, and men who have become members of the organization have found this to be true. That is why the klan is disintegrating. And it is disintegrating, beyond doubt. The fact that 66 of the 86 klans in North Carolina have surrendered their charters is evidence of this. In several other States the same thing has taken place.

The truth is, the klan is breaking up because its members are realizing that they have been victimized. Most members of the organization, no doubt, deplore organized and militant intolerance as sincerely as any one else. And certainly the vast majority of them deplore acts of violence. Many men, we believe, have entered the klan thinking it was one thing, and have found it to be another. Judge Grady is a notable example. He was regarded as one of the strongest men in the klan. When he became convinced that it was pretending to uphold the principles of religious liberty and freedom of thought and of the press, but in reality has placed itself in direct opposition to them, he got out of it. And the 66 surrendered klan charters in North Carolina show that many others think as he does about it.

North Carolina Klan About Wrecked; Last Big Official Resigns

RALEIGH, N. C., Feb. 22.—The Ku Klux Klan as an active, organized force in North Carolina, virtually blew up today.

Judge Henry A. Grady, for four years grand dragon of the order, announced his resignation from the organization, following a break with Imperial Wizard Hiram W. Evans, and simultaneously there was introduced in both branches of the legislature today bills outlawing the use of masks and concealing robes by members of secret organizations.

Sixty-six of the 86 local Klan chapters in the state are said to have surrendered their charters today.

CAROLINA PASSES ANTI-MASK BILL

Raleigh, N. C., February 23.—(AP) The North Carolina state senate today passed, without debate and without a dissenting vote, the Johnson bill forbidding masking in public by members of secret orders and providing for dissolution of organizations that keep their membership secret.

The measure was introduced in both branches of the legislature yesterday a few hours after it became known that Superior Court Judge Henry A. Grady had resigned as grand dragon of the Knights of the Ku Klux Klan.

The house bill, introduced by Representative Oscar Haywood, was referred to a committee, although its introduction was greeted with cheers. The senate bill was sent to the house by special messenger after it had been passed under suspension of the rules.

Carolina Leader Of Klan Resigns; Assails Wizard

Raleigh, February 21.—(AP)—The Raleigh News and Observer will say tomorrow that Judge Henry A. Grady, for four years grand dragon of the Ku Klux Klan for North Carolina, has resigned from the klan.

The paper will say that Judge Grady resigned yesterday because of alleged attempted coercion to obtain by subterfuge the passage of what he regarded as iniquitous legislation in the North Carolina general assembly.

"Under the legislation which the imperial wizard undertook to dictate and which brought bitter denunciation from Judge Grady, membership in the Catholic church or in the Knights of Columbus would become a felony and marriages between members of the Catholic church and members of Protestant churches would be forbidden, when attended by any agreement as to rearing children," the newspaper will say.

A letter said to have been written by Judge Grady to Dr. Evans today is quoted by The News and Observer:

"It is a far cry from this obligation (the oath) which you and all other klansmen have taken to the silly, unseemly and unconstitutional measures which you and your advisers are attempting to foist upon the people of a liberty loving state."

N. C. ANTI-MASK BILL

PASSED BY STATE SENATE—AIMS TO DISSOLVE SECRET ORDERS IN NO. CAROLINA

Raleigh, N. C., Feb. 23, 1927.—The North Carolina State Senate today passed, without debate and without dissenting vote, the Johnson bill forbidding masking in public by members of secret orders and providing for dissolution of organizations that keep their memberships secret.

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Flogging Declared Legal In North Carolina

Preston News Service

RALEIGH, N. C., Feb. 2.——Flogging of convicts in North Carolina prisons is legal, the Supreme Court held here Wednesday, reversing a judgment by Judge A. M. Stack in Buncombe Superior Court assessing a fine of $25 and costs against B. Davis, superintendent of the county prison camp for whipping a prisoner.

In the lower court it was held that the law passed by the State General Assembly in 1923 permitting flogging of prisoners was void because of the State Constitution forbid corporal punishment. The Supreme Court held that the Constitution does not forbid flogging and that the 1923 law is valid.

Kolored K. K. K. Adopts Black Hood And Gown

ASHEVILLE, N. C.—A new "K. K. K.", Knights of the Kolored Krusaders, has been organized and is said to be rapidly spreading thru this section. The regalia of the new order resembles the Ku Klux Klan robes and hood—except that it is heavy black with scarlet symbols.

UNMASKING THE KLAN

WHEREVER there is persistent privacy, secrecy, disguises between individuals or groups of individuals, there is suspicion of wrongful purpose. Well-intentioned people and organizations do not seek to obscure their movements. If their aims are pure and benevolent, they do not hide themselves behind masks nor any other form of disguise. The guilty they are, the louder they are in their asseverations of innocence. Innocence stammers and hesitates; but guilt unproven, is defiant. Such is the record of mankind.

On the twenty-third of February, the Senate of North Carolina, without opposition, sent down to the House a bill against masked organizations. It is not hard to believe that the bill is aimed, primarily, at the Ku Klux Klan, the most notorious masked organization in America. Because of its secrecy, its privacy, its disguises, perhaps many crimes have been charged to the Klan of which it was not guilty. That is the penalty for its disguises.

But the history of the Klan is unsavory. It is associated with intimidation, with fright, with beatings, tar and feathers, bigotry, race hate, and murder. It foments strife; it arrays class against class; it is the most undemocratic thing in democratic America.

North Carolina is making progress. The eyes of the nation are upon her. Her prosperity is one of the marvels of the new century. Her progress and prosperity can best be maintained when there are assurances of continued amity and concord among her citizens. A secret empire with its assumption of government and authority, and its continuous threat of vengeance and reprisal can not assure the amity and concord so necessary to the welfare of all the people in this commonwealth. The legislature of North Carolina has taken an advanced and necessary step, and the passing of the Klan is but a few days.

BILL HITS HOODED ORDERS

North Carolina House Follows Senate in Approving Ban.

Raleigh, N. C., Feb. 28.—Organizations that keep memberships secret would be outlawed in North Carolina, and wearing of masks or hoods in public that conceal identity of the wearer would be forbidden by a bill passed by the North Carolina House of Representatives today without a dissenting vote.

OUTLAW KLAN IN NORTH CAROLINA

Members Of Hooded Organization To Be Punished By Imprisonment

RALEIGH, N. C., Mar. 2. —The Ku Klux Klan and other secret organizations were outlawed in North Carolina Saturday when the House unanimously passed the Johnson "unmasking" bill, almost as speedily as the Senate had done earlier.

The bill will have to go to conference because of two amendments offered in the House by Representatives Rideoutte of Rowan, which would exclude the Moose and labor organizations from the bill.

The bill prohibits the organization or operation of secret orders in North Carolina and makes membership in such an organization a felony, punished by imprisonment.

The bill must go back to the senate for concurrence in two amendments offered by Representative Rideoutte of Rowan and accepted by the house. These amendments exempt the Loyal Order of Moose and any labor organization from the provision of the bill.

Court Action Probable

It is possible that these exemptions may form a basis for later court action as one of the purposes of the bill was to prevent property in the hands of the North Carolina chapters or Klaverns of the Ku Klux Klan from reverting to the national organization in the event of surrender of charters.

Whether or not they imperil the validity of the entire bill of course must be determined by the courts.

Ends Six-Year Fight

Although protection of the property of Klans surrendering charters was one of the purposes of the bill, it received the hearty support of a great number of legislators who are opposed to secret organizations and their methods.

It was this support and not the disaffected Klans that turned the tide in favor of the bill after a six-year fight.

The senate passed the bill earlier in the week and rushed it to the house, but immediate action was blocked and the bill went to the juidiciary committee where it received unanimous favorable report Friday afternoon.

N. C. DEATH KNELL OF THE KLAN

New Measure Makes Membership Felony

Raleigh, N. C., March 4.—The death knell of the Ku Klux Klan as it exists now in North Carolina was sounded Saturday afternoon when the state house of representatives unanimously passed the Johnson-Haywood bill making membership in such organizations a felony.

UNMASKING BILL TABLED BY HOUSE IN NORTH CAROLINA

Raleigh, N. C., March 4.—(AP)—The house of the North Carolina general assembly today voted to table the "unmasking" bill passed by both houses last week and then reconsidered. The bill was returned to a committee which favorably reported a substitute in the house today.

The measure makes it a felony to belong to an order whose rules require its members to keep their identities concealed.

Robesonian
Lumberton N. C.
SEP 19 1921

CAN'T JUS[illegible]Y THE MASK.

It seems to be regarded in Alabama as a serious thing for masked men to take people out and flog them. The courts in that State are taking some vigorous action. In North Carolina we are more tolerant. In Wake county two men were taken out at night nearly a year ago and whipped by masked men, but nothing has been done about it and Judge N. A. Sinclair is the only high official who seems much disturbed about the shame thereby brought upon the county and the State. In Durham county no action has been taken to bring to justice some men guilty of engaging in a flogging party about a year ago. Bringing men to justice who are guilty of pouring contempt upon the laws and upon the rights of their fellow-men is infinitely more important than the political fortunes of any man or set of men. Some vigorous and fearless action is needed in North Carolina if worse things do not overtake us.

In Franklin county, adjoining Wake and not far from Durham county, a negro boy was whipped by a masked mob a week ago and warned to leave the community at once. It is said that the boy was "impudent" to a white girl and if that was true he deserved the beating, but why the mob and masks?

One Charles J. Orbison, a Ku Klux lecturer from Indiana and an ex-judge in a lecture to some cheering brethren in Hickory the other night severely criticised the editor of the Hickory Record for an editorial in which criticism was made of the Ku Klux klan for the wearing of masks by its members, declaring that masking by members of the klan encouraged crooks, thieves, assaulters, floggers murderers and the life to steal the livery of the klan for their devilish deeds. But the former judge, who might have found plenty occasion for lecturing about revelations concerning klan activities in his home State, did not attempt to justify the wearing of masks by the klan. That's the respect that makes the klan dangerous. There is something sinister in the mask, and it affords a cloak behind which men who are not members of the klan do evil deeds for private revenge and other unworthy motives. So long as the klan hides behind a mask it is going to get and deserve censure.

Ku Klux Klan-1927

North Carolina.

OBSERVER
CHARLOTTE, N. C.

SEP 14 1927

N. C.

ASHEVILLE, N. C.
CITIZEN

Times

SEP 15 1927

WAKE COUNTY FLOGGINGS.

EVIDENCE is available which proves that all the flogging cases are not confined to Alabama. Flogging outrages have been committed almost within the shadow of the State Capitol of North Carolina. Dolly Jones, a one-armed merchant of Wake County, and a negro who was employed by Jones as a helper, were recently given a beating in true flogging style. Will Dean, a white farmer living in the same county, is anotner victim of the lash at the hands of his fellow citizens. According to reports, there were from 60 to 70 individuals taking part in these two beatings.

Judge N. A. Sinclair, in opening the fall term of Wake County Superior Court, made it clear to the grand jury that they were obligated to go to the botton of these two outrages. He said that indictments against only a few men would not be sufficient, but that the investigations should be so thorough "that indictments can be returned against the entire bunch of men who perpetrated the crime." Both Jones and Dean have been hailed into court and tried on charges which are said to have prompted the floggings and neither of them was found guilty. In the case of Dean, the evidence against him was so flimsy that the presiding judge did not even present his case to the jury.

The long charge by Judge Sinclair was based on the Bill of Rights of the Constitution. Its chief purpose, he said, was to protect the sanctity of an individual's person and his home. If such outrages continue, said Judge Sinclair, we shall eventually become as uncivilized as "the barbarians in darkest Africa." There are few people who would dare disagree with such a statement. The charge as a whole, directed as it was against mob rule, was pronounced by the lawyers present as being one of the best ever heard in a Wake County court.

Wake and the entire State are fortunate that Judge Sinclair is the man to start the investigation. He is noted for his untiring efforts to punish crimes of the type which has recently served to disgrace Wake County and the State of North Carolina. He attracted National attention and much favorable criticism for the manner in which he handled the famous Needleman case and there is every reason to believe he will follow up the latest flogging episodes in a merciless fashion. One of the best ways of completely stamping out the evil would be for every judge to denounce it in just such terms as Judge Sinclair is doing.

An Assault On The Law

THE SEIZING and flogging of a 15-year-old Negro boy near Franklin Tuesday night is a serious outbreak of lawlessness in a county whose people are noted for their respect for law and their support of constituted authority.

The youth is charged with making "impudent remarks" to white girls. For this offense, masked men took charge of the case in defiance of the courts, soundly beat the lad and threatened him with death, he says, if he told of the incident. He was also warned to leave the county, which he states that he will do.

Whether or not Macon County cares greatly for the fate of his young Negro, John Daley, Macon people have before them a splendid though difficult undertaking in asserting the power of the law against masked floggers who have flouted and scorned it.

As a member of a race but a little while removed from slavery, John Daley and his unlawfully received stripes may or may not excite the indignation of the rank and file of the dominant race. That is beside the question, in one sense, although John Daley's legal rights under the federal and state constitutions are as clear and sacred as those enjoyed by the Governor of North Carolina.

The issue to which the good people of Macon should address themselves is whether personal rights guaranteed to all, without regard to color or station in life, can be revoked at will by the jurors and executors of mob law. The real question is whether the law or the mob shall rule.

If mobs in Macon beat a colored boy Tuesday night, tonight they may beat a white man or a white woman—mobs are doing just that in some county of the United States between the setting and rising of every sun.

It is not anarchists but mobs that endanger American institutions.

This week has been set apart in celebration of the signing of the Constitution of the United States. The sponsors of this observance deplore the ignorance of the American people concerning their Constitution. Deplorable as that ignorance is, the danger which threatens free and orderly government in these states is not ignorance of the Constitution but willful defiance of its letter and spirit.

It is always a hard job to ferret out evidence against masked floggers. If, however, the law is potent only for the performance of its easy routine duties, then the case for liberty under law is indeed desperate.

Sheriff Ingram and his associate officers of the law have won praise throughout the state for their vigilance and resourcefulness in running down criminals. In this Daley case they can win honor for the state and another good name for themselves wherever men love lawful justice, by bringing the floggers of the colored boy to the bar of Macon County Superior Court

Seven Face Jail After Night Raid

Whiteville, N. C., Sept. 9.—Four white men are in jail here, three others are sought by police and four small children of John Stevenson are seriously injured following an alleged attack by a band of 16 white men on the home of Stevenson in the western section of Columbus county early Tuesday morning, Aug. 30.

Stevenson came to Whiteville and swore out warrants for seven of the men he claims he recognized during the shooting. He believes the attack was made because he had caused a search warrant to be issued for Joe Bullard (white), of this section, following the loss of some personal property.

Legender

According to the story Mr. Stevenson told officers, he was awakened after midnight by a crowd of men gathering around his house. They demanded that he leave the house, he said, and it was upon his refusal to leave his children alone that they opened fire on the frame building, many of the bullets passing through the windows and doors.

Stevenson escaped injury, but officers corroborated his statement that four of his children were struck by bullets while they lay huddled in their beds.

9-10-27

The barrage continued, Stevenson said, until it appeared that all of their ammunition had been used. They then departed, using vile and threatening language, he asserted.

Upon the break of day he cautiously made his way to Whiteville, where he summoned aid for his children and had warrants issued for seven men. Those for whom warrants were issued are Hal Hasty Woodberry and Doss Brown, Joe Bullard, Johnnie Ellis and John Ransom.

The four who were arrested were placed in jail in default of $500 each. They were charged with secret assault. Stevenson told officers that none of the men were masked or robed, and that he was positive as to the identity of those for whom he had warrants issued.

SIXTEEN INDICTED IN FLOGGING CASE

North Carolina Also Has Trouble With Whippings Blamed On Ku Klux Klan

RALEIGH, N. C., Dec. 1.—(AP)—Indictments charging H. G. Guerard and fifteen other men with "secret assault and conspiracy" in connection with the flogging of Ernie Brewer and Joe Wood, of Holly Springs, on Dec. 2, 1923, were returned by the Wake County Grand Jury today.

Guerard was identified before the Grand Jury as a king kleagle of the Ku Klux Klan and an organizer for the organization in North Carolina. He was said to be living at Birmingham, Ala., now and to be identified with an organization known as The United Klansmen of America. Officers said he would be the principal defendant.

Others named in the indictments were: A. W. Thompson, former prohibition agent and special deputy sheriff; M. T. Myers, F. C. Adams, H. C. Stephens, D. A. Baker, C. F. Spence, Scott Johnson, Almon Holloman, Clarence Steward, G. Jones, Lee Hatcher, Joe Denson, J. F. Jones, L. C. Mann and Percy Adams.

Brewer and Wood, it was charged, were taken to a vacant house near Holly Springs, where they were flogged and suffered serious injuries. Two witnesses called before the Grand Jury were said to have admitted participation in the flogging and named the other fourteen who were with them.

Ku Klux Klan - 1927

Ohio.

KLAN ISSUE CLOSES CHURCH

Presbyterian Pastor at Struthers, Ohio, Caused Dissension.

YOUNGSTOWN.., Ohio, Oct. 26 (AP).—After fifty years of existence, the Presbyterian Church of Struthers, a suburb, has been officially dissolved by the Presbyterian Council, it was announced today by the Rev. Fenwick W. Frazer, Stated Clerk.

The Rev. Mr. Frazer said the bringing of the Klan issue into the pulpit by the Rev. Leroy Meyers, a former pastor, who was dismissed by the Presbytery, had divided the congregation.

The church property reverts to the Presbytery and probably will be sold, he added. In 1926 the church had a membership of 183, but only a handful remained when the organization was dissolved.

CLEVELAND, OHIO

OCT 8 1927

The Post Box

FROM OUR READERS.

Would Have Klan Disband.

Editor Plain Dealer—Sir: As the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People has been one of the most persistent opponents of the Ku Klux Klan since the new order was established, it may not be amiss to point to the justification for this opposition as furnished in the states of Alabama and Indiana. In both states the Ku Klux Klan was admittedly dominant.

In Alabama a series of brutal floggings of women as well as men and boys by hooded gangs have aroused the leading newspapers and the best citizens to outraged protest against lawless gang domination of the state. A grand jury has expressedly and by name identified the Ku Klux Klan with some of the brutal crimes there committed and the issue has become one of law and organized society itself against the brutal cowardice of masked gangdom.

In Indiana we have the spectacle of the erstwhile leader of the Klan in jail for life on a charge of murder arising out of the death from unmentionable mutilations of a young woman. We have the spectacle of the entire state government under Klan auspices literally riddled with corruption, and the same true of the capital city of the state, Indianapolis. There is no disposition to deny the connection of the Ku Klux Klan with the stenches in Alabama and Indiana. Denial would obviously be useless in face of the established facts.

Are not conditions in these two states sufficient earnest of what we have to expect of the self-demoninated protectors of womanhood, the defenders of purity, the upholders of 100 per cent. Americanism? Is it not time that American editors and American citizens who stand for national decency denounce this order! In Virginia, within the last few days, one of the foremost daily newspapers has voiced a demand that the Klan disband in that state. It seems

In Writing the Post Box.

All communications to the editor should be addressed care of the Plain Dealer Post Box. Letters should be direct and to the point, and must give the name and complete street address of the writer. These will not be used if a request to withold them is made; but anonymous communications will receive no consideration whatsoever. Individual expression from readers of the Plain Dealer is invited and desired. The editor reserves the right to abridge communications.

o the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People that hat demand might well be voiced hroughout the United States.

JAMES WELDON JOHNSON.
ecretary, National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.
Cleveland.

Ku Klux Klan-1927

Pennsylvania

KU KLUX BILLS IN PA. LEGISLATURE

By Harry B. Webber

HARRISBURG PA., FEB.—Intermarriage of whites and "persons of African descent" would be prohibited under a bill introduced in the State House of Representatives, Monday, by Representative Weber, of Clearfield.

The bill would provide a penalty of $1,000 to $2,000 fine and one to five years imprisonment. A second Weber bill is aimed at Catholics and foreigners.

Such a bill offers little chance of passage.

TIMES
NORRISTOWN, PA.

MAR 1 1927

350 KLANSMEN AT SERVICE IN NEGRO CHURCH

Kleagle Cain in Ebenezer Pulpit Tells of Klan's Attitude Towards Colored People

The unusual spectacle of a delegation of 350 members of the Ku Klux Klan, attired in the full regalia of that organization, seated with about 300 colored men and women in a friendly joint religious service was presented Sunday night in Ebenezer Church at Spruce and Arch streets.

The church is a negro institution, and the klansmen were present on invitation of the official board and the pastor, Rev. C. N. Walker.

J. F. Cain, of Norristown, field representative of the klan in Montgomery and Delaware counties, and formerly chief kleagle of the Montgomery county klan, delivered the address of the evening, speaking on the klan's relation to and attitude towards negroes, and a delegation of klansmen presented an American flag to the church at the close of

(Continued on Page Nine)

the service, several of the colored officials responding to the presentation address.

The service, which lasted from 7.45 to 10 p. m., had been described as "a special service."

Mr. Cain, discussing the service today, said the klan had been invited by Rev. Mr. Walker to attend the service in a body and to provide a speaker who would present to the colored congregation firsthand the organization's attitude towards colored people.

Opposed to Intermarriage

He said that the congregation gave him a pleasing ovation at the end of his remarks in which he stressed the klan's position as absolutely drawing the line at intermarriage of white and colored people and urged better education of the negroes, saying the sooner they become educated that much sooner will they be able to take their places as citizens. He said the klan acknowledges the rights of citizenship granted the negroes by the American Constitution.

According to Mr. Cain, members of the congregation invited to comment on the address at its conclusion all made favorable statements and said they had been misinformed about the klan's attitude towards them.

The negro choir sang several spirituals besides the regular religious music, and the klansmen sang "Old Rugged Cross" and "Faith of Our Fathers."

The klansmen assembled on Germantown pike and rode to the church in about 75 automobiles, leaving the cars parked outside and marching into the building in a body.

KHAKI KLANSMEN GUARD CHURCH AS PREACHER TALKS

United Methodist Minister Tells Klansmen He Is In Accord With Their Plan

NORRISTOWN, Pa., Mar. 9.—While klan guards in khaki uniform and oversea helmets patrolled the streets in front of his church and their wives and friends filed in, the Reverend C. N. Walker, pastor of the Ebenezer African United Methodist church of this city praised "100 per cent" organization and lauded their propaganda that in blighting out inter-marriage the inferiority complex of people of color would vanish. One hundred fifty klansmen in full regalia applauded from time to time as their minister stated that he voiced the sentiment of his race when he declared himself in accord with their movement

Official Speaks

J F. Lane, field representative of the klan addressed the curious crowd and stated that it was his purpose to explain the real program. He deplored the alleged lies which were told about the klan and declared that to lynch people of color accused of crime was not the policy. In part he said, "Our white supremacy attitude is based on the fact that we think our women are better and we resent Negroes marrying them. Likewise he same principle If men of color persist there is only one thing to do and that is to "lick them good every time."

Reverend Mr. Walker concluded by saying that any organization which stood against the mob law and lynching as does the klan, according to his reasoning, should be supported by the people of his race. When interviewed by a reporter, the pastor stated that his assertions and prayers in the pulpit did not necessarily cause him to be in hearty accord with the klan.

Would Suppress Report

He further stated that he did not want to see anything in print to the effect that he did approve of that nefarious organization A reliable report revealed that the chuch was given $55 and an American flag as a token of appreciation

RULE ON KU KLUX KLAN FOR MANY CRIMES IN PA.

PITTSBURGH, Pa., Aug. 10—Sensational charges were brought against the Ku Klux Klan Saturday including the blame for the lynching of a colored American near Beaver Falls in July 1923. A rule was granted by Federal Judge W. H. S. Thompson to show reason why the organization should not be restrained from its activities in Western Pennsylvania, being returnable September 5.

The rule was granted upon a motion of five Western Pennsylvania men, who in a suit brought against them by the Klan organization, are described as "banished" members, and were charged with collecting funds of the Klan by initiations and other means. Supporting the motion for the rule, the defendants filed a number of allegations, accusing the Klan of inciting riots. kidnaping, lynching and other depredations.

CHARGE KLAN WITH RIOTING AND LYNCHING

Former Klansmen Also Lay Kidnapping At Door Of Hooded Ku Klux

THE IMPERIAL WIZARD HIRAM EVANS ACCUSED

Affidavits Say He Gave Command To 20,000 Before Deadly Clash

PITTSBURGH, PA.—Former members of the Ku Klux Klan turned on that order here Saturday and laid a fatal riot, a lynching and a kidnapping directly at their door.

The accusations came in the form of an answer filed in the Federal Court and upon which an order was issued directing the hooded order to show cause why it should not be restrained from operating in Pennsylvania and a receiver named over its properties in the state. The rule was made returnable Sept. 5.

Lynched Man

Among the charges was one directed against Sam D. Rich, white, identified as the acting Grand Dragon of the Klan, who is said in the petition to have sent some eight or nine hooded Klansmen from his Pittsburgh office on July 6, providing one of them with his own imperial robe, and directing the lynching of a race man near Beaver Falls, Pa. Several men were also named as members of the band including three Exalted Cyclops.

The petition also gives details of the kidnapping of a four-year-old white child on June 4 and lays the responsibility of the fatal riot in which a man was killed, directly on Imperial Wizard Hiram Evans, whom it says made an inflammatory address before giving the command to 20,000 Klansmen to march, many of whom were armed with deadly weapons.

PITTSBURGH KLUXERS HELD FOR LYNCHING

Pittsburgh, Pa., Aug. 12.—The Ku Klux Klan as an organization last Saturday was charged with the responsibility of a fatal riot, the lynching of a man and the kidnaping of a child in affidavits filed in federal court upon which an order was issued directing the organization to show cause why it should not be restrained from operating in Pennsylvania and a receiver named over its properties in this state. The rule was made returnable Sept. 5.

The three outrages mentioned in the affidavits occurred in the summer of 1923.

The defendants charged that Sam D. Rich (white), identified as then acting grand dragon of the klan, directed the kidnaping about June 4, of a 4-year-old girl from a Pittsburgh suburb and "secreted the child in the West, where it has never since been heard from."

Rich was further charged with sending out some eight or nine hooded kluxers from his office in Pittsburgh in July, 1923, provided "one of them with his own imperial robe," and directed the lynching of a man near Beaver Falls, Pa. Several men were named as members of the band, three of whom, the affidavits said, were exalted cyclops of their klaverns at the time.

The fatal riot described in the affidavits occurred Aug. 25, 1923, at Carnegie, near Pittsburgh, when Thomas Abbott was slain during a clash between parading klansmen and Carnegie residents. Hiram Wesley Evans, imperial wizard of the order, made an "inflammatory address," the affidavits declared, "before giving the command to march to 20,000 klansmen, many of whom were armed with deadly weapons."

NEW KU KLUX KLAN EXPOSURE STIRS COUNTRY

Pa. Klans Seek To Drive National Body Out Of The State

FLOGGING PARTIES ORDERED BY K. K.

Leaders Started Riots Knowing Results Would Be 10,000 New Members

PITTSBURGH, Pa.—Civil war between the Pennsylvania state Ku Klux Klan and the national body provides an exposure which stirred the country this week.

The New York World which took the lead several years in showing that the Ku Klux Klan was an un-American race hating proposition designed on'- to make money for the promoters, is again taking the lead in giving publicity to the Pennsylvania klan civil war.

Affidavits

A number of affidavits coming out of the family quarrel of the Klan give a picture of the corrupt and money grafting organization with the Emperor Hiram W. Evans at the center.

Most striking of the sensations is that Evans who originally was a poor boy got his start by beating 80 colored men at one time in celebrated floggings in Dixie.

Trouble Starts

Pennsylvania klans have been slow in making new members and turning funds over to Emperor Evans who is represented as money mad, whereupon the emperor revoked the charter of the Pennsylvania klans and under klan law claimed all of the funds now in the Pennsylvania klan treasury.

Pennsylvania klans held on to their money. The national body brought suit to secure control of them and to enjoin the obstreperous locals from using the klan name.

Thoroughly angry now, the local Pennsylvania klans took their most important step. They secured an injunction enjoining the national body from operating in Western Pennsylvania and causing them to show cause why a receiver should not be appointed to take over their property there.

When Thieves Fall Out

When thieves fall out, honest men come into their own is an old time saying. Here are some of the private Ku Klux disgraces which have been exposed as a result of the Pennsylvania Klan civil war:

(1) That Ku Klux provide candidates at inition with revolvers and women with maple clubs a foot and a a ..alf long with a leather hand holt, all at the expense of the order.

(2) The affidavits repeatedly point to the decline of the Klan in membership. At the crest of its success its national membership is variously rated at rfom two to ten millions. In Pennsylvania it appears to have had 280,000 members then. Now the Pennsylvania membership is put at 26,000 and the national membership at 300,000.

(3) The Klansmen insist that Evans' Imperial Klan has taken in $500,000,000. They estimate the Brown Investment Company of Atlanta which he heads, is worth $20,000,000. Exalted Cyclops Immel deposes that the Imperial Wizard is $3,000,000 short of last year's revenue and that he is revoking charters of Klan locals to get more funds

(4) Roy F. Barclay, head of the Barclay detective agency of Pittsburgh tells of his klanning.

"I was directed by Sam Rich, grand dragon of Pa., to lynch a Negro at Beaver., Pa., about uuly 6, 1923. Sam Rich called me into the Grand Dragon's offices and gave me his imperial robe." Barclay names six Klansmen who acompanied him: "We took this Negro out to an oak tree in the woods and strung him up by the neck, and some of the Klansmen had given him a flogging and kicking him and all details were reported back to Sam Rich and the Imperial Klan, and the Imperial Wizard became familiar with all details.

"On several occasions I was directed under the command and coercion of Sam Rich to carry out the attempted lynching of other Negroes, and the Imperial Wizard was kept fully advised what was going on, it being his system of education and method of building up the Klan.

(5) Exalted Cyclops Harry McNeil swears The Imperial Klan, paid its speakers $50 a night and has "hordes of private detectives and secret service men on high salaries." Wizard Evans has his private bodyguard, McNeel tells, and the Klan has "gunmen and sluggers". The Klan had sixty undercover men in Pennsylvania to "spy on the local Klans."

Cyclops McNeil discovers a new use for the regalia robes. At the Kitanning demonstration in 1924 the Ohio delegation came "with sawed-off shotguns under their robes."

(6) "Another masked parade is scheduled to take place in Indiana County, Pennsylvania, and the Imperial Wizard and Grand Dragon are both scheduled to make fiery speeches ing old members who have dropped before parades begin, for the purpose of causing riots and reclaim-out of the Klans

(7) The "Big Four" of Washington D. C., namely Hiram Wesley Evans H. C. MacCall, H. K. Ramsey and James A. Comer, have given out the word that every old member is to be taken back into the Klan, irrespective of character, or whether he is a woman chaser, booze hister or whatever he is, so that he comes forth with $5, as the Ku Klux Klan is now desperate straits, needs money and must have it, as the membership all over the country has fallen off 90 per cent....."

(8) Numerous affidavits charge that experience has taught the Klan, that the slickest way of getting new memberships is to precipitate a riot. Past experience has taught the Klan they, allege that a racial or religious riot so inflames and divides the populace that thousands of citizens are ready and willing to part with $10 for a password. They allege that Imperial Wizard Evans boasted that the Carnegie riot brought in 25,000 new members and the Scottdale riot another 10,000.

(9) William M. Likens, ex-klansman "I was personally told in Dallas of Uniontown swears:
that Hiram Wesley Evans personally supervised scores of these flogging parties andd id most of the whipping himself He is said to have taken out one night twenty-three Negroes and whipped them on the banks of a creek not far from Dallas, leaving two of them supposed to be dead.

At the time Mr. Evans joined the Klan in 1920 he was a very poor man, having endeavored to join the Dental Association of Dallas and was denied membership on two occasions, once several years before he joined the Klan and once after he became Imperial Wizard of the Klan.

"He is now reputed to be worth many millions of dollars all made out of the Klan.

DENOUNCE JUDGE IN KLAN CHARGE

Philadelphia, Pa., Nov. 10.—(By A. N. P.)—Individuals and organizations denounced Judge Edwin O. Lewis who in addressing the Grand Jury Friday declared that unless the influx of Negroes from the south be checked Philadelphia and other cities will suffer and predicted that barriers will be erected by the leading cities to prevent the wholesale entry of such persons.

This declaration and prediction came on the heels of the statement by the judge that 80 per cent of the criminals in Philadelphia were Negroes who had recently come North and were out of work. He criticized the Negro race severely and according to right thinking citizens unjustly.

Among the charges hurled at the jurge is that he is a member of the Ku Klux Klan and while he held the office of Grand Kleagle invited a Negro who was light enough to "pass" to become a member of the organization.

Chief among those assailing the jurist was the Langston Association which issued the following statement: "Judge Lewis' statements are damaging to the colored race and unjust. The best way to prevent ignorant Negroes from coming here is to educate them in the South where they are. Any law to prevent an American citizen from going from one part of the country to another would establish a ghetto system and would be unconstitutional.

"We feel that the learned judge, himself from the South, is not of the proper attitude of mind to deal with these southern Negroes impartially."

Pennsylvania

Ku Klux Klan - 1927

FIND WOMAN TIED WITH WIRE

Louisville Herald 20/27

BRADDOCK, Pa., Aug. 19 (PNS) —Her arms and legs tightly bound with wire, a woman believed to be Miss Lita Munday, aged 28, of Port Perry, was found Wednesday, lying on the bank of Turtle Creek, near the Edgar Thompson Steel Works, North Braddock. She was taken to Braddock General Hospital. Police say she told them she was beaten by three men, then bound and thrown into the check to drown but saved herself by rolling to shore.

Ku Klux Klan - 1927

South Carolina.

CAROLINA KLUXERS SEEK LASH LAWS

Grand Dragon of Klan Says Masked Floggings Should Be Made Felony

SPARTANBURG, S. C., Sept. 26.—(AP)—A law making it a felony for masked persons to flog, otherwise harm or threaten violence to anyone will be sought by the South Carolina Ku Klux Klan at the next session of the legislature, said A. E. Hill of this city, grand dragon of the order in the state, tonight.

Declaring that a law should be enacted making it a felony punishable by a term of imprisonment "for any person to assume a disguise and inflict, offer or threaten violence or corporal injury to any human being," Mr. Hil said, as spokesman for the klan in South Carolina, "I shall ask for the enactment of such a law by the legislature at its next session and the klan will lend its support to the passage of such a bill."

Ku Klux Klan-1927

TELEPHONE OPERATOR FLOGGED BY NIGHT RIDERS IN TENNESSEE

Is Taken From Office After Expressing Willingness to Put Through Night Call by Hooded Band, Carried in Auto and Beaten With Straps; Walked Back Scantily Clothed

NASHVILLE, TENN., June 30—(AP)—A telephone operator's readiness to do a late hour favor for supposedly friendly men broke ended in receipt of a severe flogging and a five mile walk bleeding, barefooted and scantily clad back to his exchange office Tom Lee Austin, alleged victim of Giles county night riders, told the Associated Press today.

The assault on the night of February 5 was the last of a series of "four or five whippings," Austin declared. Fifteen men are under indictment on from one to three counts each in connection with this and two other alleged floggings, of which W. A. Harbison, white man and Henry Brown, negro, were said to be the victims.

Roger Driver, negro barber shop proprietor left the Elkton community after repeated warnings from the same band, Austin said. Elkton is 75 miles south of here.

News of the alleged whippings and the indictments did not become known here until a check was started on various rumors. The investigation was ordered by Circuit Judge W. B. Turner at the April term of court and trials will probably be held in October. By that time, county authorities have indicated, additional indictments will be brought.

"I was asleep in my room at the telephone office about 11:15 p. m. when I was awakened by someone at the door. I was asked to put through a long distance call as no other telephone was available in Elkton at that hour. Though it is against company rules to do this, I agreed to put through the call as an accommodation" Austin said. "I threw open the door, not looking to see who it was, and five unmasked men entered, carrying guns, which they leveled at me. I thought I knew one of them and the next day found he was the man I thought him to be.

"They told me some one on the outside wanted to see me, and I replied that they would have to come inside if they wished to do so. The others came in, making about 15 in all. They quickly overpowered me and carried me, in my night clothing, to a point on the road about five miles away They were in automobiles.

"All had on masks by this time. I did not notice anything particular about the masks. They stripped me of my clothing and started beating me with leather straps and sticks. Several were holding me and one man placed his knee on my neck, nearly choking me into unconsciousness. They must have hit me three or four hundred times. They were worn out and my body was a raw mass.

"Then they made me walk back to town, with what clothing I could snatch up. They accused me of immoral conduct. Whether they made a mistake in identity or not I don't know, for I have never been around any of the places they said I had."

Austin is married. He refused to obey the command to leave the county the next morning he said.

LYNCHBURG
VIRGINIA
JUL 14 1927

Flogging

A Pulaski (Tenn.) grand jury indicts 13 for flogging two white men and a negro last winter for alleged infractions of the moral code and contempt for prohibition. The action is late, but may not be too late. Convictions on charges of this sort are hard to obtain, even when investigation follows soon after the crimes. But it may be that the evidence causing the indictments will also be strong enough to procure convictions. A few convictions would greatly reduce this barbarism in Tennessee as it was reduced in South Carolina. We note that indictments have also been returned against seven or more Georgians in connection with the recent flogging near Toccoa. We welcome the indication that Tennessee, too, shows indications of rebellion against gang rule and a determination to rout the night riders.—The New Orleans Item.

PRESS
ASBURY PARK, N. J.
JUL 20 1927

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Tennessee.

TIMES
ROANOKE, VA.
JUL 19 1927

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ENDS BRUTAL FLOGGINGS BY RIGID STATUTE

Studied as Model by Southern States

Chattanooga, Tenn.—The anti-mask law of Tennessee is rapidly becoming the model for other southern states in their fight to suppress outrages and masked floggings. The law, which is credited with preventing floggings and night-riding in this state and with having crushed the powerful influence of the Ku Klux Klan, is being studied by law authorities of Alabama, who are vainly attempting to get passed an anti-mask law to stop the hundreds of midnight floggings which have caused a virtual reign of terror. It is the opinion of many citizens of the two states that the Alabama legislators will have small chance of passing as drastic a law as the Tennessee statute in view of the pronounced attitude of the opposition, led by the machine of the Klan governor.

LAW PASSED SHORTLY AFTER CIVIL WAR

The Tennessee statute was passed shortly after the Civil war to meet the problem which arose from the organization of the original Ku Klux Klan. Irreconcilables, both inside and outside the Klan, had hidden behind the mask of the order to commit all sorts of violations of law and the Klan had been disbanded as a result of the abuses by the Tennessee legislature, dominated by the so-called carpet-bagger element, passed a law which 50 years later is found to fit the situation perfectly.

The law is in three sections and provides a fine of from $100 to $500 for "any person masked or in disguise who shall prowl, travel, ride or walk through the country or towns to the alarm of the citizens of any portion of this state."

The second section makes it a felony, punishable by imprisonment for ten to twenty years, "if any person or persons, disguised in mask by day or by night, shall enter upon the premises of another, or demand entrance or admisison to the house or inclosures of any citizen of the state, it shall be considered prima facie evidence that his intention is to commit a felony."

NEW KLAN FAILED TO CONSIDER OLD LAW

The teeth of the statute, however, are found in the final section, which provides: "If any such person or persons prowling, traveling, riding or walking through the towns or country of this state, masked or in disguise, shall assault another with a deadly weapon, he or they shall be deemed guilty of assault with intent to commit murder in the first degree, and on conviction thereof shall suffer death by hanging; provided that the jury trying the case may substitute imprisonment in the penitentiary for a period of not less than 10 years nor more than 21 years."

This law, by robbing the Klan of its chief appeal, that of secrecy, is credited with being the cause for the early demise of the new Klan in Tennessee. Starting with a flourish here six or seven years ago, the Klan is now but a shadow of its former self and is in no wise a political or social factor. Tennessee has had none of the terrorism which recently has afflicted both Georgia and Alabama because there is no mask behind which either the Klansmen or those seeking to use the Klan's secrecy may hide.

FREE KY. FLOGGERS

White Klansmen Released In Spite of Evidence Against Them

PULASKI, TENN., November 9.—Although positively identified as the men who adbucted and whipped an aged colored citizen here January 11, last, five white alleged Klansmen were acquitted by a jury Friday.

George Barnes, victim of the flogging, and a white man identified the five men at their trial as members of the masked band that kidnapped and flogged the victim. Harris Williamson, head of the Ku Klux Klan here, and Claude Rogers, a former constable were among the five freed. The State maintained that Brown was whipped Jan. 11 and the defense insisted that it was Jan. 4 and presented its alibis to meet that date.

IDENTIFIES FLOGGERS

White Says Five On Trial Were In Gang That Whipped Negro

PULASKI, Tenn., Nov. 2. — Testimony of Henry Brown, that he was whipped by a band of masked whites January 11 last, was corroborated by George Barnes, white, Saturday at the trial of the floggers.

Barnes told how he insisted on accompanying the group when they took his son Holmes away from his home to "question" him, and how they later made Brown their victim. He recognized several defendants then, and later the raising of masks betrayed two others, he said.

Brown declared that Claude Rogers, a former constable, was in the crowd and was the second man to beat him.

The whites charged with the flogging of Brown are Johnny Jones, Harris Williamson, John Amis, Claude Rodgers and Tom Campbell.

Ku Klux Klan - 1927

Texas.

THE NEW GOVERNOR OF TEXAS

[The New York World]

Dan Moody, 34 years old, becomes governor of Texas on a record of merit. He is the real hero of the fight in that state against the Klan. As young district attorney from Williamson County, he made a reward when Texas was full of floggists and terrorism as a prosecutor who dared to obtain indictments and push them to the limit of his powers. He indicted and jailed even lifelong acquaintances. The revolt against the Klan gave him the nomination for attorney general and swept him into office by a majority of 100,000 greater than "Ma" Ferguson received for governor.

TIMES HERALD
DALLAS, TEX.
JUN 14 1927

NEGROES PREPARE TO LEAVE WILMER; "CAPPERS" NABBED

Negroes living in the vicinity of Wilmer, Tex., were on the verge of seeking new domiciles Monday night until two negroes were arrested and charged with "white capping."

One negro resident reported to officers at Wilmer that he had found a warning sign pinned on his front door Monday.

It read: "Niggers, now is the time to git yourselves away from this town. This ain't no nigger's town and if you all don't leave you must suffer the consequences—Signed K. K. K."

Word was passed around among the other negroes about the warning and some of them started packing up to leave.

The constable at Wilmer arrested L. D. Alexander and Kelley McWade, negroes, and brought them to Dallas and filed charges of "white capping." It was believed by negro residents of wilmer that the two accused blacks, unable to obtain employment, had posted the warning in an effort to make some of the negroes leave, and thereby better the employment situation.

Caps Nip Dusky Ku Klux Klan In Bad

Dallas, Tex., June 22.—A dusky Ku Klux Klan in embryonic state, was broken up in the vicinity of Wilmer, Texas, with the arrest of two colored suspects Monday night, according to Dallas police.

Negro residents of that section were packing up and preparing for flight until the pair was arrested and charged with "white capping." One resident reported to officers that he had found the following warning pinned upon his front door:

"Nigger now is the time to git yourselves away from this town. This ain't no nigger's town and if you all don't leave you must suffer the consequences—signed, K. K. K."

The constable at Wilmer arrested two men and brought them to Dallas, where charges were filed Tuesday.

It is believed that the two, unable to find employment, had posted the warning in an effort to frighten some of the others out of town, thereby relieving the unemployment situation.

SOUTHERN RUFFIANS FLOG FIVE

Texas Masked Band Enters Home and Mistreats Men and Women Indiscriminately

MARSHALL, Tex., June 8—(Special to the St. Louis Argus)—"The worm turns," as the old saw goes, was seen somewhat in reality here Friday when the old band of southern "Knights" of the swamps and plantations, who generally make it a practice to satisfy their hate and prejudice burdened minds by mistreating some innocent Colored American who always proves their easiest victim, staged a wholesale flogging of white persons in the wood west of this city. As a result of the latest outrage of these hooded "hoodlums" the law is manifesting a greater determination than ever to end their deviltry.

J. R. Richardson and his wife were flogged by four white men who came to their house about 9 o'clock Wednesday night, it was reported. The men are said to have entered the home at the point of pistols covered the two sons, Sammy, 15, and Tommy, 14, and took their mother and beat her with a four-ply new seagrass rope with knots in it.

They then turned and made her look on while they beat her husband with the same rope, then ordered the family to leave, it is said.

They took Richardson's shotgun and cartridges with them. They next visited the home of W. A. Straps, son of Mrs. Richardson, which is only about 150 yards away on another farm, and on entering the house, knocked Straps down with a six-shooter and then proceeded to flogg his wife with the same rope used at the Richardson home and knocked down Mrs. H. L. Mills, half-sister of Straps, with their fists, ordering the family to work their crop. They took Straps' shotgun with them when they left.

The men and women who were flogged came to town and told their story to County Attorney John E. Taylor and other officers. They said three of the four men wore black rain slickers and the other one a yellow slicker. Their faces were partly concealed with handkerchiefs and rags, it was said.

Arrests are expected according to officers.

Last Minute News

FEDERAL AUTHORITIES TO PROBE REPORTS OF PEONAGE

Marshall, Texas, June 15.—Disappearance of two of five persons who were flogged by masked men and an arrest of one suspect yesterday caused the Federal and State authorities to center their investigation on the reports that the attacks involved peonage.

W. A. Strapps and J. R. Richardson, their wives and Mrs. Hester Lee Mills, a half-sister of Strapps, were the victims. From all reports to the Federal Government, peonage exists in this section. A full and thorough investigation is under way.

KLAN MAULERS ARRESTED

Outbreak Occurs During Parade When Bystander Speaks to Woman

GRAND PRAIRIE, TEX., July 24.—(AP)—Two men were under arrest today in connection with a disturbance here last night at the conclusion of a Ku Klux Klan parade. Several persons were slightly injured in the general melee that ensued when a spectator made a remark to a woman parader and a klansman took exception.

Fists flew in the general fight which followed and one man, named Burke of Grand Prairie was severely cut with a knife.

With the arrival from Dallas of several deputy sheriffs the fighting ceased.

FLOGGED VICTIMS FOUND BY RANGERS

Couple May Appear Against Suspect; U. S. Investigates Report of Peonage

REWARD FOR MASKED MEN

Ordered to Leave the Country, Says One Sufferer

MARSHALL, Tex., June 14 (A. P.)—W. E. Straps, tenant farmer, and his wife, who were flogged near here last Wednesday night by five masked men, were found to-day by State Rangers on a farm near Longview. They had been missing since Saturday.

Straps and Mrs. Straps probably will be called as witnesses in the trial of D. Osborne, against whom charges of assault and violation of the State Anti-mask Law have been filed in connection with the floggings.

The Marshall Chamber of Commerce offered a reward of $1,250 to-day for arrest and conviction of the men who attacked the Straps and J. H. Richardson and his wife, relatives of Straps, and neighboring tenant farmers.

Federal officers investigating the case are investigating reports that peonage was involved in the whipping.

Osborne was an employee of Cain Anderson, on whose farm the victims of the masked band formerly lived.

Richardson said he and his wife were ordered to leave the country and that Straps told him he was instructed to take over the Richardson farm as well as to continue working his own.

Randolph Bryant, Federal District Attorney at Sherman, has promised to co-operate with State authorities while Adjt. Gen. R. L. Robertson ordered two Rangers assigned to the case at the suggestion of Gov. Moody.

WOMAN DESCRIBES MASKED FLOGGING

Wife of Texas Tenant Testifies She Was Beaten With Knotted Rope

TYLER, TEX., Sept. 5.—(AP).—The story of how she was dragged from bed by four masked men and flogged with a knotted rope after her husband had been beaten unconscious was related on the witness stand here today by Mrs. Willie Straps, 23, in the trial of Cain Anderson, wealthy planter, on a charge of violating the state anti-mask law.

Mrs. Straps identified Anderson as one of the assailants and named D. Osborne, a tenant on Anderson's farm as another member of the whipping party. Osborne is awaiting trial.

The state called Mrs. Straps as a rebuttal witness. Previous testimony had dealt with the flogging of J. H. Richardson and his wife, parents of Mrs. Straps.

They were beaten by the four masked men June 8, the night Mrs. Straps and her husband were at tacked

TEXAS LASH CASE ENDS IN MISTRIAL

Tyler, Texas, September 8.—(AP)—The jury in the case of Cain Anderson, wealthy dairyman farmer, charged with violating the state anti-mask law in connection with the flogging of Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Richardson, and their daughter-in-law, Mrs. Willis Straps, on June 8, was excused at 5:30 p. m. today by Judge J. R. Warren, of Smith county district court, after they reported they were unable to agree on a verdict. The jury was split 7 to 5, but it was not announced whether it was for acquittal or conviction.

OFFICER IDENTIFIED AS ONE OF FLOGGERS

Fort Worth, Texas, October 25.—(AP)—Harry Conner, former city detective, was identified from the witness stand here today by M. S. Strauss, plumbing supply dealer, as one of the men who on July 8 abducted him from his home and flogged him. Conner is on trial for alleged violation of the state anti-mask law.

A defense fund for Conner has been raised by the First Baptist church of Fort Worth, of which J. Frank Norris, fundamentalist leader, is pastor. Dr. Norris in numerous sermons has alleged that the charge against Conner was the result of a conspiracy because Conner testified for Norris when the minister was on trial for the slaying of D. E. Chipps, lumberman, several months ago.

Shortly after the trial of Dr. Norris, who was acquitted, Conner was discharged from the detective department.

Strauss testified Conner, with another man, came to his home on the night he was whipped and lured him outside with a story that a friend had been injured in an automobile accident. Believing the men to be officers, Strauss said he went to an automobile with them where he was seized and taken into the country and flogged.

Strauss related that two weeks later he saw Conner in a local hotel restaurant and recognized him.

TEXAN IDENTIFIED AS WOMAN FLOGGER

Planter Beat Tenants to Make Them Work Harder, One Victim Testifies.

TYLER, Texas, Sept. 5 (AP).—The story of how she was dragged from bed by four masked men and flogged with a knotted rope after her husband had been knocked unconscious, was related on the witness stand here today by Mrs. Willie Straps, aged 23, in the trial of Cain Anderson, wealthy planter, on a charge of violating the State anti-mask law.

Mrs. Straps identified Anderson as one of the assailants and named D. Osborne, a enant on Anderson's farm, as another member of the whipping party. Osborne is awaiting trial.

The State called Mrs. Straps as a rebuttal witness. Previous testimony had dealt with the flogging of J. H. Richardson and his wife, parents of Mrs. Straps. They were beaten by the four masked men June 8, the night Mrs. Straps and her husband were attacked.

Both families were tenants on Anderson's place and it was testified the floggers declared the punishment was administered because the Richardsons and Straps had not worked hard enough.

Anderson on the witness stand this morning denied that he was one of the floggers. He declared he was home in bed and knew nothing about the affair until the next morning when he sent some mericine to the victims.

"Willie and I were fixing to go to bed," Mrs. Straps testified. "We had turned out the light. Suddenly four men ran into the house, one behind th eother, carrying guns. They ordered us to hold our hands up, which we did. One knocked Willie down with a six-shooter, when Willie tried to get his gun. Willie got up when two of the men took hold of me, but they knocked him down again, this time unconscious."

"They threw me across a trunk. One of them holding me was D. Osborne, a tenant of Anderson's farm. And the man with the rope was Cain Anderson. They held me, whipped me with the rope, which was knotted, and then let me up. D. Osborne said:

"'We don't want no more laying around 3 o'clock in the afternoon. You must get into the field at sun up, work until 12, go back at 1 and work till sundown.'"

Mrs. Straps said she saw Anderson's face under a red handkerchief when he bent over her.

"One man said he would blow my brains out if I crossed the creek nearby, or went over to the Craig place, across a wire fence, where the Richardsons were staying," she said.

THE NEW SOUTH

Is the South turning away from violence—from mob punishment with the shotgun and the rope to the law? There are hopeful signs that it is in spite of the contrary influence of the Ku Klux Klan. For the first six months of this year, according to the records of the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institution, there was not a single lynching in Virginia, The Carolinas, Georgia, Alabama, Tennessee, or Kentucky. There were but nine lynchings in the entire South. The records of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People differ slightly, attributing one lynching each to Florida and Tennessee, but the National Association agrees on a total of nine for the first six months of 1927 against its figure of thirty for the entire year 1926. The record is especially encouraging in regard to Georgia, South Carolina, and Tennessee, for the National Association recorded three lynchings each in Georgia and South Carolina in 1926 and two in Tennessee.

It is true that one must set against the decline in lynchings the out break in some parts of the South of another kind of violence—floggings. These are almost entirely the work of the Klan and are directed against the different kin dof victim from that sought of lynching mobs. In recent years lynching in the South has been largely directed against Negro men for alleged offenses such as murder and rape. The Klan flogging mobs, on the other hand, have drawn no color line and have whipped women and youths as well as grown men. The reason has commonly been some comparatively slight offense, such as violation of the prohibition laws.

But floggings ar enot going unpunished either. Goernor Hardeman, of Georgia, let it be known when he took office a couple of months ago that he would not tolorate the Klan's lawless efforts to discipline its neighbors, and the State has proceeded so vigorously against floggers as to halt that pastime. In Alabama the outlook until lately seemed less hopeful, as the political grip of the Klan there is tight. Governor Graes is the grand cyclops of the Klans in Montgomery and Attorney General McCall is the kloncillor of the klavern. When, therefore, action was begun against the mob that whipped Mrs Bertha A Slay, knowing ones winked slyly and assumed the proceedings to be a bit of hypocritical, widow-dressing intended to placate the anti-flogging sentiment, and destined to end without purnishment of the floggers. But thanks in no small degree to the vigorous campaign of Victor Hanson's Birmingham News and Age-Herald and his Montgomery Advertiser, a strong sentiment has been aroused in the State against flogging which the Governor and the Attorney General have either come to share or to which they have had to bow. The case against Mr. Slay's attackers was pressed with vigor and ended in the punishment of three men and two women by fines of from $100 to $25. This, though light punishment, was a vindication of the law, and it was followed by far more drastic action against the floggers of a nineteen-year-old orphan, Jeff Calloway. Two of his attackers have been sentenced to jail terms of eight to ten years, while five others have been fined and sent to prison for six months.

THE FORT WORTH LIGH

From time to time the Nation has had to use harsh words in regard to mob violence in the South. It takes extra pleasure, therefore, in pointing to signs of a better public sentiment.

Ku Klux Klan-1927

Texas.

FARMER IN TEXAS FLOGGING CASES HELD FOR BRIBES

Marshall, Texas., July 20.—(AP)—Charged with attempting to bribe witnesses in the recent flogging case here C. R. Hughes, tenant farmer on the Jewell Anderson place, was arrested Wednesday by state rangers. He was placed in jail here to await hearing.

The complaint charges that Hughes approached Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Richardson and Mr. and Mrs. A. A. Strapps, all of whom were recently flogged, and offered them an automobile and $180 for their wagon and team if they would leave the county and not testify against Cain Anderson and Dewitt Osborne, indicted in connection with the floggings. This case is scheduled to be called for trial Monday.

TWO ARE JAILED FOLLOWING FIGHT AT KLAN PARADE

Grand Prairie, Texas, July 21.—(AP)—Two men were under arrest today in connection with a disturbance last night at the conclusion of a Ku Klux Klan parade. Several persons were slightly injured in the general melee that ensued when a spectator made a remark to a woman parader and a klansman took exception.

Fists flew in the general fight which followed and one man, Sidney Burke, of Grand Prairie, was severely cut with a knife.

With the arrival from Dallas of seven deputy sheriffs the fighting ceased.

JOURNAL
DALLAS, TEX.

SEP 17 1927

Negroes Cheer Ku Klux Head in Color Line Talk

A crowd of about 600 negroes, forming part of a mixed audience, expressed thanks in cheers, when Shelby Cox told them from a stump to "stay on your side of the color line." Mr. Cox, who was speaking as grand dragon of the Knights of the Ku Klux Klan of Texas at an open air meeting at Boll street and Thomas avenue Friday night, further advised his negro listeners by adding "the goblins will get you if you don't."

The only panacea for race troubles, said Mr. Cox, is strict adherence to definite lines of segregation by both blacks and whites. About 1,400 white persons also heard the grand dragon's speech, but his remarks were intended primarily for the negroes.

The whole trouble between the two races would be obliterated, Mr. Cox inferred, if the negroes will only be "honest and true and law-abiding and uphold the color line."

PLEADS GUILTY TO FLOGGING CHARGE

Texan Accepts One Year Sentence For Whipping Family of Tenant Farmer

GILMER, TEX., Sept. 27.—(AP)—Dewitt Osborne of Marshall, charged with violating the state anti-mask law in connection with flogging of several persons in Harrison county last June brought his trial to an abrupt ending here today when he entered a plea of guilty, agreeing to accept a year's sentence in the penitentiary.

The plea of guilty came after several witnesses had testified.

Osborne was indicted with Cain Anderson, wealthy farmer, in connection with the flogging of Mr. and Mrs. J. L. Richardson and their daughter-in-law, Mrs. W. A. Straps, tenants on the Anderson farm. Osborne was Anderson's foreman.

The flogging victims reported they were whipped by four masked men who warned them to leave the country. They were told they had not worked hard enough on Anderson's place.

Anderson was tried several weeks ago at Tyler and the case resulted in a hung jury.

Ku Klux Klan - 1927

Virginia.

KU KLUX KLAN BLAMED FOR JUSTIFIED KILLING

Wilson Claims Men Were All Hooded; Verdict Today.

Special to The Commercial Appeal.

DANVILLE, Va., Sept. 2.—Chas. W. Wilson, aged tobacco planter, accused of killing J. Claiborne Sparrow, will tomorrow evening know if he is exonerated of the shooting or held for the action of the county grand jury. Following a four-hour hearing held under spreading oaks and attended by 500 farmers the three magistrates called the trial on account of darkness and agreed to hear final arguments tomorrow evening at school field.

The state is asking that the accused be remanded to the grand jury. The defense will tomorrow submit to the court, one of the attorneys said today, that Wilson committed no unlawful act but was justified when he shot Sparrow, alleged to have been robed and hooded at the time. A sharp dividing line appeared between the seven witnesses appearing for the state and the seven for the defense.

Everybody Hooded.

All the state witnesses, which included Thomas Oakes, constable, who led a group of men to investigate the private life of Wilson without warrant and at night, said there were no hoods and gowns. All swore that Oakes on knocking at the door said he was an officer, and they were on a peaceful mission to talk to Wilson. Every member of the Wilson household testified the only men about the house were hooded. A neighboring relative saw two hooded men carrying the body of a third hooded man. The composite story told by these witnesses was that the robed figures raised a window and tried to enter, peering indoors with a flashlight. It remained for the youngest witness, Jack Wilson, aged 7, to give the most vivid evidence.

"Who was it?" he was asked. "The old Ku Klux," he answered unhesitatingly.

Oakes was mercilessly questioned for an hour. From him was drawn the admission that on the basis of an anonymous letter which he had lost and which breathed scandal against the Wilsons he had "invited" men to accompany him on the mission, and that after Sparrow had been shot he helped load the body on an automobile and then went home to bed without making an investigation or attempting to arrest Wilson until several hours later, when Danville officers accompanied him.

Wilson admitted that he regretted the second barrel of his gun was not primed and that he tried to shoot it. His wife was crying to him to hold his fire until "it gets hotter," meaning until entry was made. He met the story of scandal by saying that George Keen, a negro, who had known the family for years and who had nursed him through a critical illness, did at times visit them and sleep under his roof. He said he would continue that practice.

Ku Klux Klan - 1927

West Virginia.

K. K. K. CALLS ITSELF AMERICA'S SALVATION

Circulars Scattered In West Virginia Carry Threat Of Racial War

ATTACK DIVERTED AT THE N. A. A. C. P.

K. K. K. Admits Sponsoring Anti Inter-Marriage Laws In Several States

NEW YORK.—The vigorous fight made by the N. A. A. C. P. upon the anti-intermarriage laws proposed in Northern States, all of which were defeated, has goaded the Ku Klux Klan into printing for national distribution a circular viciously attacking the N.A.A.C.P. and asserting that the association encourages the Negro "to let his lekes dwell in lust upon women of the white race."

Copies of the circular were circulated in West Virginia during the A. A. C. P. membership drive there and one of them has been forwarded to the National Office by a member of the Charleston Branch. In this pamphlet the Klan in the following words admits sponsoring anti-intermarriage bils which the N. A. C. P. was able to defeat:

Laws

"To preserve America and to save Americans from mongrelization the Knights of the Ku Klux Klan has openly sponsored and is demanding the passage of laws in every state in the Union making it a felony for a Negro to marry a white person. We do not hesitate to say that there is no room in America for any man or woman who believes in or teaches the mixing of our blood with the blood and inferior racial characteristics of the Negro. Do you believe, with the Negro association, that if a Negro man wants to marry a white woman, it 'should be a matter of individual choice'? If you do America would be betetred by your leaving it."

In His Place

As to the Ku Klux Klan attitude toward the Negro, the circular is explicit. It states: "The Ku Klux Klan does not fight the Negro so long as he does not try to force himself upon us as our social equal. He must be brought again to realize he is of an inferior race and of a lower standard. We teach the white man it is his duty as a member of a dominant race to keep the Negro in his own racial sphere."

Race War Threat

In its circular, the Ku Klux Klan quotes freely from press releases of the N. A. A. C. P., citing the N. A. A. C. P. victories in the courts including the Supreme Court's decision in the White Primary and the Louisana Segregation cases, as a menace. The Ku Klux Klan circular closes with what is virtually a threat of race war, as follows:

'Can We Be Saved From A Race War?

"For years this country has been rushing headlong into the throes of [illegible] race. The only escape [illegible]sts in the hope of America will [illegible]rend of times. white man to of the Negro [illegible]n once sav-[illegible]rror of the [illegible]tion is to [illegible]ough the [illegible]thly sal-

KLANSMEN ASK LAWMAKERS TO HALT "MIXING"

Charleston, W. Va., Oct. 28.—Endeavoring to spread its vile and subtle prejudices, the Ku Klux Klan is circulating pamphlets here, urging the legislators to pass a law to prevent the intermarriage of races. Their cowardly action is being veiled under the guise that it is a move to preserve America. A part of the circular reads:

"We do not hesitate to say there is no room in America for any man or woman who believes in or teaches the mixing of our blood with the blood and inferior racial characteristics of the Negro. Do you believe with the Race associations which say 'If a Negro man wants to marry a white woman, it should be a matter of individual choice'? If you do, America would be better by your leaving it."

The whole tenor of the pamphlet is centered around Race men marrying white women, but there is no clause that speaks of the manner in which white men hold women of our race as concubines.

As to the Ku Klux Klans attitude toward the Race, the circular is explicit. It states: "The Ku Klux Klan does not fight the Negro so long as he does not try to force himself upon us as our social equal. He must be brought again to realize he is of an inferior race and of a lower standard. We teach the white man it is his duty as a member of a dominant race to keep the Negro in his own racial sphere."

In its circular the Klan quotes freely from press releases citing victories won by the Race in the courts, including the supreme court's decision in the white primary and the Louisiana segregation cases, as a menace. The circular closes with what is virtually a threat of race war, as follows:

"For years this country has been rushing headlong into the throes of a cruel race war. The only escape from that calamity rests in the hope that the white man of America will awaken now to the trend of the times. It is high time for the white man to stop a further inroad of the Negro race. The Ku Klux Klan once saved a people from the terror of the black race, and if this nation is to be saved now it will be through the Ku Klux Klan, the only earthly salvation of the white man."

Ku Klux Klan-1927

Wisconsin.

GOVERNOR HOPES FOES WILL DECIDE IF HE'S KLANSMAN

(By Leased Wire to The Constitution and The Chicago Tribune.)

Kenosha, Wis., March 7.—"If the 'Madison ring' ever succeeds in settling whether I am a member of the Ku Klux Klan, something may yet be accomplished by a comprehensive agricultural program for Wisconsin, Governor Fred R. Zimmerman declared here today in a speech before a joint meeting of Kiwanis, Rotary, Optimist and A. B. C. clubs. He advocated a great annual livestock sale at the state fair grounds.

"In one breath the 'Madison ring' tells you I am fixing all Catholics, and in the next they report I have appointed another Catholic. In one column of their kept press they complain that I have insulted all Jews, and in the next column the kept press reports that E. J. Gross, a Jew, is the Colonel House of the Zimmerman administration.

"I defy any enemy of the klan to beat my record. My first appointment was a Catholic to be county judge for Dane county and my latest appointment was that of a Jew who had been a rabbi, to be judge of the superior court at Madison."